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Wilmington Town Crier

69TH YEAR NO. 14 PHONE 978-658-2346 APRIL 5, 2023 www.HomeNewsHere.com 20 PAGES

No change made to calendar regarding Columbus Day

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — The School Committee continued their discussion around changing the school calendar relative to the scheduled “Columbus Day” holiday during their meeting on Wednesday, March 22, eventually deciding not to make any changes.

Residents came forward both in opposition and in favor of the removal of “Columbus Day” from the name of the holiday on the calendar during public comment.

Scott Neville, also a Finance Committee member, first spoke up in support of removing “Columbus Day” from the name on the holiday. He commented that naming the holiday after Columbus creates an environment where he is glorified. While he said that he understands and supports learning about Italian heritage, he wants to see curriculum explore opportunities to celebrate both Native American and Italian heritage.

Janet Engrem stood up as a proud member of the Sons (and Daughters) of Italy to say that they celebrate Columbus Day, similar to St. Patrick’s Day, with an Italian heritage celebration and parades.

“I’m angered and shocked that we are being discriminated against,” she said.

She named all of the ways that the Sons and Daughters of Italy has supported the school system and suggested that removing Columbus Day would lead to removing holidays like Thanksgiving.

Michelle Cairra Norton suggested that this effort would next require the renaming of holidays like Presidents’ Day because of some presidents owning slaves, the Fourth of July for the same reason, and Martin Luther King Jr. Day in light of his extramarital affairs. She likened removing Columbus Day to “erasing history by tipping stat-

ues.” She also said that replacing Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples’ Day is pitting two ethnic groups against each other.

One resident commented that removing Columbus Day in this way would be taking a piece of our country’s history out of classrooms and increase division. Another said that they should leave the holiday as it is and celebrate Indigenous peoples on Aug. 9. Other commenters agreed that this would be discriminatory and favoring one narrative.

Lou Cimaglia asked about how the changing of the calendar came up and why the good and bad of Christopher Columbus can’t both be recognized.

In response, Chair Dr. Jenn Bryson explained that this has been a topic of conversation for more than three years among the committee members. She spoke to the fact that they all do research and receive concerns from parents in support of changing the holiday due to inaccurate understandings of history from the glorification of Columbus. The committee ended the public comment time with a room of disgruntled residents in attendance.

When it came time for the committee to discuss, they shared regard for the reflections made by the residents present in the meeting.

M.J. Byrnes suggested that the change from Columbus Day would work against the culture of inclusivity and unity that they are trying to create in the school district.

“I’d rather see it as a celebration of two very strong and wonderful cultures that contributed to this country,” she said.

Stephen Turner said that there were great reasons to celebrate Italian-American heritage, but not Christopher Columbus.

COLUMBUS | PAGE A11W

Time for Spring cleaning!



Starting April 8, stop by the library to pick up gloves and trash bags to participate in the town clean up! On April 22, bring your bag(s) of trash to the Wildwood Street Parking lot from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. to spin the prize wheel and pick up a tree seedling! (courtesy photo)

Select Board receives memos and requests

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — During their meeting on Monday, March 27, the Wilmington Select Board returned from executive session discussing multi-district litigation strategy against manufacturers and distributors of opioids to receive a number of memos and requests for the use of public spaces.

Communications that night came in from a law firm on behalf of a revocable trust request along with various department

heads and town officials. Bowditch & Dewey, LLP Representative Kristin Shirahama wrote on behalf of Adele C. Passmore detailing a revocable trust to be given in the amount of \$5,000 for the Wilmington Council of the Arts and \$25,000 to the Harnden Tavern Museum for exhibit space.

Select Board Chair Judy O’Connell asked Town Manager Jeff Hull if they would follow typical protocol and reply to Bowditch & Dewey, LLP with gratitude for the trusts. Hull responded in the affirmative.

DPW Director Jamie Magaldi wrote to the board describing the allocations and current expenditures of ARPA funds so far. Out of \$5.5 million allocated for the replacement of the Woburn Street water main from Lowell Street to Woburn Street, they had spent \$68,000 so far on engineering services and were developing the scope of work. The original allocation for stormwater cache basin improvements of \$1 million had been lowered to \$206,000, none of which would be expended until

later this year at the earliest.

\$32,908 out of \$44,000 for water supply screening and life cycle cost analysis had been expended. They’d also spent \$1,500 out of the total \$50,000 for grant administration and \$46,000 out of \$50,000 for brand and marketing.

There was still \$300,000 set aside for the acquisition of drainage, utility, and infrastructure easements; \$450,000 for the Lubbers Brook replacement; \$100,000 redirected

BOS | PAGE A11W

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — The Wilmington Select Board was visited by New England Donor Services representative Michael Murphy during their meeting on Monday, March 2 for an update regarding organ donation. Select Board Chair Judy O’Connell opened the appointment by

Organ donation update given to Select Board

thanking Murphy for attending and establishing that the board also received a pamphlet of information in this regard.

Murphy first shared with the board his own story: that he himself is a living organ donor and an organ recipient. He mentioned his donation of a kidney to his own sister over 25 years prior and his receipt of a kidney seven years ago, both of which were life-saving procedures. He then provided to the board that 150,000 people per year in the United States are in need of organ donation, with 12 people added to the list every two minutes.

Because of this, as many as 20 people pass away per day while waiting for a donor.

“There just aren’t enough organs out there to help them,” he said.

With this in mind, Murphy explained that his group is seeking folks to sign up as living donors or to be donors when they pass away. He said this is an opportunity to save someone who may go on to save someone else’s life later in their own life. He included how to sign up as an organ donor at the registry when filling out license renewal information and the potential to choose to be a living or-

gan donor separately. Kidneys, lungs, and parts of a liver can be donated from a living donor.

O’Connell thanked Murphy for his letter and shared appreciation for organ donors as well as Murphy’s personal experience. She mentioned her own experience with friends and family who donated and received organs. She said that this is an important but personal and difficult topic that comes with a full array of emotions.

Lilia Maselli commented that a life lost could potentially save many when that person is an organ donor. She also said she’s known organ donors and

that there’s beauty in organ donation though it is emotional.

Gary DePalma thanked Murphy for his organ donation and for speaking up on behalf of those in need of donors. He, too, shared similar experience with other organ donors and that he is an organ donor.

Greg Bendel called Murphy an inspiration and shared excitement to support the work that the group is doing. Kevin Cairra thanked Murphy for spreading awareness of this important cause.

Murphy also asked the board for permission to fly the “Donate Life” flag

at the town hall on April 24 to recognize Organ Donor Month in April. O’Connell also described how Murphy in his request said he and his wife would be present in the town hall that day to disseminate information about organ donation from both living and deceased donors.

Town Manager Jeff Hull noted this was the fourth or fifth year the board supported this cause and the request to fly the “Donate Life” flag. He appreciated how organ donors provide the opportunity for someone else to continue living. Murphy thanked Hull for the town’s continued support.

The board voted unanimously in favor of the request.

HomeNewsHere.com

To reach
The Town Crier
Call: 978-658-2346

Town Crier

Wilmington Library News:

Spring Storywalk opening at Rotary Park on Saturday, April 15

Adult Programs

Google Docs or Microsoft Office

Monday, April 10, 7 p.m.

Microsoft's Office products, Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, aren't free. However, if you have a Gmail account, you have access to Google's Docs, Sheets, and Slides for free. Come join technology librarian, Brad McKenna, to see if moving over is right for you.

Cookin' the Books

Tuesday, April 11, 12 p.m.

If you love to cook and enjoy talking about food and sharing recipes then this group is for you. Pick up a copy of the cookbook (or find a recipe from the book online), register on the library events calendar and record your recipe. Bring your dish to the meeting and enjoy sampling everyone's dishes! The featured cookbook for April is 5 Ingredients by Jamie Oliver.

Drop-in Tech Help

Tuesday, April 11, 2 p.m.

Wednesday, April 12, 2 p.m.

Saturday, April 15, 2 p.m.

Have a tech question that's been bugging you? Stop by Drop-in Tech Help.

Craft and Chat

Wednesday, April 12, 7 p.m.

Enjoy making a craft while socializing with others! This craft group meets the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm. All craft supplies provided. April's featured craft is Cake Shaped Gift Boxes.

VIRTUAL Landscaping and Gardening for Wildlife

Thursday, April 13, 7 p.m.

Do you have a true green thumb? Meaning, are you taking into account the complete ecosystem around the land you care for? Learn how you can support local species by utilizing wildlife-friendly gardening practices in your home, business, and community settings. Simple, easy actions like keeping fall leaves on the ground could have huge effects, and bring in more butterflies, come spring! Learn about what to do, and not do, in your yard, garden, or even container, to support nearby birds, frogs, pollinators, and more in a sustainable fashion.

Needleworkers

Friday, April 14, 10 a.m.

This is a social group for those who do any kind of needle craft. Bring your knitting, crocheting, quilting, etc. and enjoy a little conversation and camaraderie. Drop in.

VIRTUAL Poetry Circle

Saturday, April 15, 9:15 a.m.

Do you enjoy writing poetry? Want input on your work? If so, this group is for you. When registering, please provide your email address so you can receive an agenda and any prep materials in advance. Led by local writing enthusiast, Barbara Alevras. If you are interested in attending this event, please email the Adult Services Librarian at adulthoodservices@wilmlibrary.org. Please include the title of the program in the subject heading. This event will be held over Zoom. You will receive an invite from the presenter prior to the program date.

Youth Programs

Wilmington Community Playgroup

Monday, April 10, 10 a.m.

The Community Teamwork Family Resource Network is here for weekly playgroup sessions! Join us for our community playgroup where we will work on Early Literacy skills and much, much more! Ask us about any resources we can help

provide for you and your family. Registration is for this day only. For more Community Playgroups, register for each date you're available to attend. Ages 0-6

Switch it Up! Video Game Club

Monday, April 10, 3:45 p.m.

Love video games? Love Nintendo Switch? Come to this once-a-month video game club to play your favorite Switch games with friends! Grades 1-5

Lil Bookworms Book Club

Monday, April 10, 6:30 p.m.

This book club is for students in Kindergarten, Grades 1 and 2, and features books, reading comprehension and an activity. Grades K-2

Kids' Book Cafe

Wednesday, April 12, 3:45 p.m.

A book tasting for students in Grades 3-5. Sample a variety of books, both fiction and nonfiction, revolving around the same genre or theme. Each session will include either a themed snack or activity! April's themes are Humor and Drama. Grades 3-5

Crafternoon:

Recycled Bottle Planters

Thursday, April 13, 3:30 p.m.

In honor of Earth Day, we're making recycled planters from plastic bottles. Grades 4-8

Spring Storywalk Opening & Pop-Up Library

Saturday, April 15, 10 a.m.

Come read our new Storywalk® book, Tad by Benji Davies, together while walking around Rotary Park! Follow it up by checking out books at our mini pop-up library! All Ages

Additional Information

Poetry Contest

Be brave, be bold! Pluck up the courage and submit a poem for the 2023 Poetry Contest! All ages can submit a poem, written with the theme Courage in mind, now through April 29. Please read through our contest rules and information before submitting. Contestants can submit online or print a submission form and bring their poem to the library. If you're having any trouble, please email us at kids@wilmlibrary.org.

Book Store Next Door

The Book Store Next Door is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10am to 4pm. Shop discount books! Paperbacks for \$1 and hardcovers for \$2. The Book Store is staffed by volunteers from the Friends of the Library and all proceeds help support library programs.

Museum Passes

The library has discounted passes to your favorite Massachusetts museums, attractions, and state parks. Find the full list on our website!

WML In-Person Programming

Registration is required for most in-person programs. Please check our website on the day of the program to confirm location. Masks are no longer required for vaccinated patrons while visiting the library.

WML Virtual Programming

The library continues to offer a variety of virtual events. Please note that registration is required in order to receive the Zoom link. Go to wilmlibrary.org to register or call 978-658-2967.

A comical Book Stew in April

Check out/listen to the April episode of Book Stew to meet noted *Sunday Boston Globe* editorial cartoonist Beth Wolfensberger Singer.

Formerly a writer for the *Boston Phoenix*, Beth always loved drawing ladies in fancy dresses, and now those illustrations are aligned with her strong political views, like her recent "Local Heroes In Loco Sweaters."

Host Eileen MacDougall

finds out exactly how Beth's half page gems are created.

Please check out the new Book Stew episode on WCTV on Tuesdays at 1 p.m., Wednesdays at 8 p.m., Friday at 7 p.m., and Saturdays at noon. Also available on demand, click on the links below:

Video: <https://tinyurl.com/BookStew112-VOD>

Podcast: <https://tinyurl.com/BookStew112-Soundcloud>

(Courtesy photo)

Local heroes in loco sweaters

Some fitting extra layers, for the first-ever post-Roe Women's History Month

It's Women's History Month, so I could draw a normal portrait of Marie E. Zakrzewska, who founded a hospital in Boston in 1862 despite having been ostracized (a lot) for being a woman doctor.

But I'm feeling kinda chilly after having a constitutional fight stripped from me in June, so let's draw her in a SWEATER.

WOMAN-THemed, AS ITS DESIGN REPRESENTS THE 19TH CENTURY BELIEF THAT THE UTERUS WAS LINED WITH TENTACLES AND SUCKERS.

Like-wise, Rebecca Lee Crumpler, who in 1864 in Boston became the first Black American woman to earn an MD in the US, amid plentiful (!) roadblocks, seems to me like someone who could use a fashion update this year.

SWEATER NODS TO THE ASSERTION, REPEATED BY SOME AUTHORITIES FROM THE 12TH INTO THE 19TH CENTURY, THAT THE UTERUS HAD SEVEN SEX-SEGREGATED BABY-MAKING COMPARTMENTS.

Hay there, Mary Jane Safford, one of the first female gynecologists in the US back in 1872 - and also a Civil War nurse, a surgeon, and a BU prof.

Do I have a quirky turtleneck for you.

ARROWS DENOTE THE LONG-HELD ANCIENT GREEK NOTION THAT THE UTERUS WANDERED ABOUT WOMEN'S BODIES, NEAR-GIRLING OTHER ORGANS AND SOMETIMES CAUSING SUFFOCATION.

As for Linda Richards, who became in Boston possibly the first professionally trained US nurse?

The perfect cardigan for a Supreme Court ruling that doesn't pass the smell test.

HAS A BEDDING NOTIF.

SOURING THESE TENSES WAS ONCE THOUGHT (NOT BY RICHARDS) TO YIELD A STENCH POTENT ENOUGH TO REPEL A WANDERING UTERUS BACK INTO PLACE.

Here we see determined (understatement!) Mary Eliza Mahoney of Dorchester, the first Black graduate of an American school of nursing, in 1879.

HER TOLLING MERITS A COLLEGIATE SWEATER, THOUGH IN THE 1870S WOMEN WERE TOLD THAT THE INTELLECTUAL EFFORTS OF COLLEGE LIFE COULD RENDER THEM WISER BUT TRAGICALLY STERILE.

And here we pay tribute to Mass.-born Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross. Sorry about this sweater, Nurse Barton.

COMMEMORATES 1967 BOSTON MARATHON RUNNER KATHARINE SWITZER BEING TOLD BY A DOCTOR THAT RUNNING SUCH A DISTANCE WOULD MAKE HER UTERUS FALL OUT.

Oh, it would be nice to celebrate Women's History Month as if anatomy myths were extinct and the quest for reproductive freedom hadn't been dangerously reworded.

HILTON'S SOPHIA FRENCH PALMER, FIRST EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING, DROPS IN HERE FROM 1900 TO REMIND US THAT THE INTERNATIONAL NURSE FEDERATION PRESIDENT SAID - IN 2010 - THAT LANDING A SKI JUMP WOULD BURST A WOMAN'S UTERUS.

Instead, times are extra weird, so we'll just leave one last sweater here.

Local hero sweater. I try me on for size?

FEATURES FRANCES SLANGER, RAISED IN ROXBURY, A JEWISH MILITARY NURSE KILLED IN 1944 WHILE HELPING TO FIGHT FASCISM.


Slanger liked to point out that a fire reduced to a single spark can blaze back if carefully tended to.

I'm hoping that applies to imperiled rights as well.

Advertisement

It's Your Money

by Todd Brisbois



How to Tell The Difference BETWEEN A HOBBY AND A BUSINESS FOR TAX PURPOSES

A hobby is any activity that a person pursues because they enjoy it and with no intention of making a profit. People operate a business with the intention of making a profit. Many people engage in hobby activities that turn into a source of income. However, determining if that hobby has grown into a business can be confusing. To help simplify things, the IRS has established factors taxpayers must consider when determining whether their activity is a business or hobby. These factors are whether:

- The taxpayer carries out activity in a businesslike manner and maintains complete and accurate books and records.
- The taxpayer puts time and effort into the activity to show they intend to make it profitable; there is a change to methods of operation to improve profitability.
- The taxpayer depends on income from the activity for their livelihood, or the taxpayer has enough income from other sources to fund the activity.
- The taxpayer has personal motives for carrying out the activity such as general enjoyment or relaxation.
- Losses are due to circumstances beyond the taxpayer's control or are normal for the startup phase of their type of business.
- Taxpayer and their advisor have the knowledge needed to carry out the activity as a successful business.
- The taxpayer was successful in making a profit in similar activities in the past.
- The taxpayer can expect to make a future profit from the appreciation of the assets used in the activity.

All factors, facts, and circumstances with respect to the activity must be considered. No one factor is more important than another.

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Local students earn academic honor at St. John's Prep

DANVERS — St. John's Prep recently announced the names of students who earned academic honors for the second quarter of the 2022-2023 school year, which ended on January 20, 2023. Students who qualified for the Headmaster's List earned grades of A- or above in all courses; students who qualified for the Principal's List earned grades of B+ or above in all courses; and students who qualified for the Honor Roll earned grades of B or above in all courses.

The following students were named to the academic honors list for the Second Quarter 2022-2023.

WILMINGTON

Head of School List

Ryan Gallozzi '29

Jonathan Morad '25

Christopher Morad '28

Matthew Norton '28

John Salvador '29

Principal's List

James Callahan '24

Nicholas Morad '25

Honor Roll

Justin Gallozzi '29

Henry Santini '27

News and notes from WCTV

Hello friends and neighbors! Here's what's going on at WCTV!

NEW PROGRAM LAUNCHED AT WCTV!

Ismah Khan (WCTV staff producer/director) has launched an exciting, new program for WCTV called, "Wilmington Eats: There's Nothing in the Fridge."

Ismah, along with fellow staff producer/editor, Will Matovu, who act as host for the pilot episode, recently visited Code 1 BBQ in Wilmington and got all the juicy details about how Code 1 BBQ came to be.

During this first episode of "Wilmington Eats," you'll get to meet Erica Marchant, chef and co-owner of Code 1 BBQ as she explains the history of how she and her husband, Sean, got the idea to open their restaurant. Erica also talks about some of her customers favorite menu items and you'll even get to see how Erica and her staff make the delicious cornbread they have on the menu.

See the inside the restaurant, how things are made and even meet staff member, Susan Morris, too!

More episodes of "Wilmington Eats" are in the works and will feature restaurants in Wilmington and surrounding towns. To view episode 1 of "Wilmington Eats: There's nothing in the Fridge" go to our website at: wctv.org. Once there, click on the "Our Programming" tab and then click, "video on demand" and scroll over until you find the show! Enjoy!

Meetings covered by WCTV:

Monday, April 10, 7 p.m. Select Board

View on: Verizon channels 37 and 38 and Comcast channels 9 and 22.

Wednesday, April 12, 7 p.m. School Committee

View on: Verizon channels 37 and 38 and Comcast channels 9 and 22.

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Questions about WCTV? Contact info@wctv.org

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- LEGAL NOTICE -

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3/29&4/5

OBITUARIES

Stanley A. Ashdown

Owner-operator All Breed Dog Grooming

Stanley A. Ashdown, age 80, a life-long resident of Wilmington, passed away peacefully on March 29, 2023, with his loving family at his side.

Stanley was born in Boston on July 18, 1942; he was the cherished son of the late Clythie and Stanley Ashdown.

Stanley was raised and educated in Wilmington; he loved sports and was proud to say that he was on one of the first baseball teams when Little League came to Wilmington where he was an all-star pitcher for his team (the Indians).

Stanley was also Vice President of his Senior Class at Wilmington High School and a graduate with the Class of 1960.

Stanley married his high school sweetheart Elaine Hersom on April 23, 1966; the couple raised a beautiful family and shared many wonderful years together.

Stanley and Elaine's home was always open to family and friends; they made everyone feel welcomed and loved. Stanley and Elaine looked forward to family holidays where there was always an abundance of food, family, friends, and fun!

The family also enjoyed vacations at Old Orchard Beach, Maine where Stanley loved driving his Corvette at daybreak along the shoreline. He would park and watch the sun come up while "people watching." Stanley also enjoyed just "hanging out" at home with his "clicker," dog and family.

Stanley had a great work ethic, he took pride in everything he did, and always treated his customers with the utmost respect. Stanley made great relationships with his customers as well as his co-workers throughout the years; many of them became extended family.

Stanley started his career as a barber for McCoy's Barber Shop in Wilmington where he worked for several years; during this time, Stanley was in a terrible accident which forced him to go on disability. As he began to recover and got a little stronger, Stanley, worked for his father-in-law at R. H. Hersom Builders and was eager to learn the "ins and outs" of the construction business.

Stanley quickly became involved in the business as a coordinator for lining up subs, ordering materials, running for permits, or working with the banks — whatever needed to be done, he was right there to give a hand.

In 1981, Stanley decided to change professions, as he took his love of animals, especially dogs, along with his barber skills and thus "All Breed Dog Grooming" was born. Stanley started his business in a little building on Main Street in Wilmington, where he worked hard, built a great client base, and treated his clients like family.

Stanley had a way with the dogs, they loved seeing him and came in tails wagging. After more than 15 years in Wilmington, Stanley opened another shop in North Reading which again was very successful.

Stanley also shared his time and talents with others; he became an instructor in dog grooming and helped others to start their own careers. Stanley retired from dog grooming in 2019.

Stanley was always one to hustle, work hard, and get the job done but he always managed to be done with his duties for the day and change gears around three in the afternoon when he hurried home to his children. Stanley was their personal "uber" running them to after school sports, clubs, dancing, activities, or whatever they needed to get to.

He made them tow the line when it came to doing homework, using their manners, and helping around the house. He showed his children with unconditional love, taught them the importance of family, and family traditions.

Holidays were "big" and celebrated in the Ashdown home: Christmas, Thanksgiving, Easter, but Stanley's favorite holiday was Valentines Day with "his girls" and Brian; he made sure they felt special and loved.

Stanley was very proud of his children; as they became adults and started their own careers, Stanley was right there as a source of encouragement, he was a great mentor and taught them to reach for the stars.

Stanley's life became even more enriched when the grandchildren started to arrive; he loved to spoil them and developed a unique and special relationship with each one; they were all "his favorite."

Throughout his life Stanley had a passion for cars especially muscle cars or vintage models. He was mechanically inclined or as some would say a "motor head" and he could fix or restore just about any vehicle. When it came to vehicle maintenance, Stanley was a fanatic, his cars were impeccably detailed and always in top shape.

Stanley enjoyed driving around in his Corvettes, his Mustang, and his Falcon he proudly restored. Stanley had a great group of "car" friends who convened at "the club house" outside Sunrise Market, where they got their morning coffee, socialized, and discussed car stories.

Stanley also enjoyed heading out to countless car shows with his children, grandchildren, and friends; he had so much knowledge that he was eager to share with them.

Stanley will be fondly remembered for his great sense of humor and quick wit; he was the first to tell a joke or pull a funny



prank. Stanley loved to socialize with family, friends, neighbors, or a complete stranger; he was easy to talk to and would go out of his way to help anyone.

Stanley was an early riser, a hard worker, a devoted family man and a true friend to many. Stanley's upbeat and positive attitude was as infectious as his beaming smile; he took adversities in life and made something positive out of every situation.

Stanley was a true example of how we should live our lives and help others every chance we get. Stanley touched so many throughout his life, he will forever be loved and missed by all who knew him.

Stanley was the beloved husband of Elaine P. (Hersom) Ashdown, devoted father of Tracie Clythie Calder of Boston, Jaylene Pearl Ashdown and Kimberly Dorothy Humphrey both of Wilmington, and Brian Roy Ashdown and his wife Kristan of Saugus.

Loving "Dubby" of Kaylee, Cindra, Tyler, Marcus, Cameron, Ava, Brody, Chase and Caleb.

Cherished son of the late Clythie (Hazlett) and Stanley Ashdown, dear brother of the late Darrell Ashdown and his wife Alice Ashdown formerly of Tewksbury, brother-in-law of Nancy Brennick and her late husband Leo, Marie Pote and her late husband Tom, Dorothy Pilcher and her late husband John, the late Richard Hersom, the late John Hersom, Fran Hersom, and the late Maureen Dugan all of Wilmington.

Stanley is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Family and friends will gather for Visiting Hours at the Nichols Funeral Home, 187 Middlesex Ave. (Rt. 62), Wilmington, on Wednesday, April 5 from 4 - 8 p.m. A Service to Celebrate Stanley's life will take place on Thursday, April 6 at 11 a.m. in the Wilmington United Methodist Church, 87 Church St., Wilmington. Interment will follow in Wildwood Cemetery, Wilmington.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Stanley's memory may be made to Rescue All the Dogs, 211 Main St., North Reading, MA 01864.

To leave a message of condolence for the family please visit our website at www.nicholsfuneralhome.com

Whisky named to President's List at Husson University

BANGOR, ME — Tewksbury resident Ivana Wiskey has been named to Husson University's President's List for the Fall 2022 semester.

During the fall semester, Whisky was enrolled in Husson's Bachelor of Science in nursing program.

Students who make the President's List must be enrolled as an undergraduate student, carry a full-time load of 12 credit hours, complete all attempted courses in the time allotted for the semester, and achieve a 3.80 to 4.0 semester grade-point average. Credits from pass/fail classes do

not qualify toward meeting the minimum credit hour requirement.

For nearly 125 years, Husson University has shown its adaptability and strength in delivering educational programs that prepare future leaders to handle the challenges of tomorrow through innovative undergraduate and graduate degrees.

With a commitment to delivering affordable classroom, online and experiential learning opportunities, Husson University has come to represent a superior value in higher education. The hallmarks of a Husson

education include advanced knowledge delivered through quality educational programs in business; health and education; pharmacy studies; science and humanities; as well as communication.

According to an analysis of tuition and fees by U.S. News & World Report, Husson University is one of the most affordable private colleges in New England. For more information about educational opportunities that can lead to personal and professional success, visit Husson.edu.

Toth named to Dean's List at Husson University

BANGOR, ME — Wilmington resident Nicholas Toth has been named to Husson University's Dean's List for the Fall 2022 semester.

During the fall semester, Toth was enrolled in Husson's Bachelor of

Science in video/film production program.

Students who make the Dean's List must be enrolled as an undergraduate student, carry a full-time load of 12 credit hours, complete all attempted courses in the

time allotted for the semester, and achieve a 3.60 to 3.79 semester grade-point average. Credits from pass/fail classes do not qualify toward meeting the minimum credit hour requirement.

Six students named to Dean's List at Emmanuel

BOSTON — In recognition of their outstanding academic achievement, Emmanuel College named more than 800 students to the Dean's List for the Fall 2022 semester. To earn a spot on the Dean's List, Emmanuel students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for a 16-credit semester. Local students honored include:

- Stephen Daley of Wilmington
- Melanie Phares of Wilmington
- Joshua Rainone of Wilmington
- Jaime Burns of

Tewksbury

- Erica Hinkle of Tewksbury
- Brett Nkabalele of Tewksbury

Emmanuel College is a co-educational, residential institution with a 17-acre campus in the heart of Boston's educational, scientific, cultural and medical communities. Enrolling more than 2,000 undergraduate and graduate students, the College provides boundless opportunities for students to expand their worldview through rigorous coursework, significant internship and ca-

reer opportunities throughout the Boston area and beyond, collaborations with distinguished and dedicated faculty, and participation in a dynamic campus community.

Emmanuel's more than 70 programs in the sciences, liberal arts, business, nursing, and education foster spirited discourse and substantive learning experiences that honor the College's Catholic educational mission to educate the whole person and provide an ethical and relevant 21st-century education.

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Published in
April 2023

in Burlington, Reading, Stoneham, Wakefield, Winchester,
Woburn, Wilmington and Tewksbury

**SPECIAL
SECTION**

Upcoming local events

Thursday, April 6, Public Health Museum indoor & outdoor tours, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., 365 East St., Tewksbury, publichealthmuseum.org

Saturday, April 8, Public Health Museum outdoor tours, 10 - 11 a.m., 365 East St., Tewksbury, publichealthmuseum.org

Saturday, April 8, 2023 at 2 p.m. on the Wilmington Town Common, the Junior Chapter of We're One Wilmington (WOW) invites children of all ages to the town-wide annual Easter Egg Hunt. 3,000 eggs will be placed on the Common. The event starts at 2 p.m. SHARP — do not be late!

Families should bring their own baskets or bags. The Easter Bunny will be making a special appearance.

Sunday, April 9, Free Easter Egg Hunt, 12 - 2 p.m., Wamesit Lanes, Tewksbury

Sunday, April 9, Westford Museum Free, 1 - 3 p.m., 4 Boston Road

Saturday, April 29, Cornhole to Benefit Megan McCarthy Brain Cancer Research, 12 - 3 p.m., US Bunting Club, Boylston Street, Contact: Goode Hair Studio, 978.710.5864, Tewksbury.

National Street Car Museum, Saturdays and Sun-

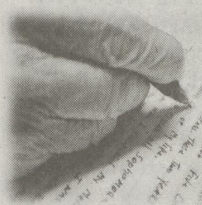
days, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., 25 Shattuck St., Lowell

Wilmington Town Museum, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., and some Sundays. Harnden Tavern, 430 Salem St. (Route 62, Wilmington) www.wilmingtonma.gov/town-museum

Middlesex Canal Museum, 1 Faulkner St, North Billerica, Saturdays and Sundays 12 - 4 p.m., middlesexcanal.org

Lawrence History Center, 6 Essex Street, Lawrence Tuesdays - Fridays 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Saturday by appointment, closed Sunday and Monday. Lawrencehistory.org

OPINION



Letters to the editor

Another successful trivia night for TMHS PAC

To the editor,
On Thursday, March 9, 22 teams of 10 gathered at the Tewksbury Elks for the first time to participate in the 14th annual TMHS PAC Trivia Night. Seven rounds of questions and it was the McMoynies Team led by Beth McFadyen who pulled out the championship win with the Queen Bees led by Serina Ryder finishing second.
The TMHS PAC would like to thank Farmer and Dee Funeral Home and Walmart for their generous donation that will be used for the All Night Long Celebration for all graduating seniors in June. A big thank to the following companies who generously donated items for our raffle table: Al Fresca, Balance Spa, Bayberry/Emerald Court, Buff City Soap, Dave & Busters, Dekk Group, Harrows Chicken Pies, JMC Enterprises, Kimball Farm, Market Basket, Oakdale One Stop Liquors, Pizza Bar, Salon Karma, Tewksbury Sports Club, Target, Tree

House Brewing Company, and Trader Joes.
Thank you to the following individuals who generously donated items for our raffle table: Sandra Areias, Karla Branchaud, Maureen Castiglione, Lila DiCioccio, Nicole Downing, Eva Durkin, Jenn Griffin, Erin Guendner, Patty Jensen, Melissa Kelleher, Maureen Kiely, Stephanie Kinon, Karina Melki, Lisa Mercer, Serina Ryder, Nancy Sutherland, and Deborah Thrush.
Hopefully we did not miss anyone. If we did, we apologize.
The TMHS PAC thanks all who attended for your continued support of our efforts to fundraise for our grant program, All Night Long Celebration for seniors and scholarships which we award each year to graduating seniors.
Thank you,
Tewksbury Memorial High School Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

Good Neighbor Energy Fund

Households in need encouraged to apply

CANTON — With last Saturday's, April 1, 2023 end to the moratorium on home energy shut-offs for customers of investor-owned utilities not on protected status, the Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund's sponsoring energy companies are encouraging those in need to apply for assistance to the Fund as soon as possible by visiting their local Salvation Army Corps Community Center. If unsure of where the nearest Community Center is located, please visit magoodneighbor.org.
The Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund is often the last resort for families who are in temporary financial difficulty and do not qualify for federal and state fuel assistance programs such as LIHEAP. The Salvation Army Massachusetts Division, which administers the Fund, pays the energy provider directly for households whose gross income falls between 60 and 80 percent of the

state's median income levels. For example, a household size of 4 would need to have a total gross yearly income of between \$81,562 and \$108,748 to qualify. This campaign year's Fund disbursement is \$500 per eligible household per heating season.
"During the lead up and end to the moratorium on energy shut-offs, we have seen a steady increase in requests for energy assistance," said Marie McCabe, Chairperson of the 2023 Good Neighbor Energy Fund campaign and Customer Service Representative for North Attleborough Electric Department. "Households who are having trouble making ends meet due to inflation or another crisis shouldn't delay in looking to the Fund as a potential source for help."
McCabe added that the easiest way to determine if a household qualifies is to visit the Fund's website at magoodneighbor.org.

The Fund's distribution award letter will also serve as qualification for the Mass Save Enhanced Insulation Incentive for customers of a Massachusetts investor-owned utility. Specifically, the offer provides qualified customers with no-cost insulation, as well as other no-cost energy savings measures.
The Fund's 38th annual "Give The Gift of Warmth" campaign is a cooperative effort between the Fund's 19 sponsoring energy companies, the general public and the corporate community to raise \$500,000 and help an anticipated 1,500 households. The campaign relies on the generosity of individuals, families, local corporations and foundations for support and has raised more than \$23.5 million and assisted over 93,250 households since its inception in 1985.
Massachusetts residents and businesses that wish to donate to the Fund are encouraged

to use the Good Neighbor Energy Fund donation envelope found as an insert in monthly energy bills. Some energy companies offer an 'add a dollar' program which allows customers to contribute on their monthly bill payment by one dollar or more. Anyone can also donate with a credit card online at magoodneighbor.org. Donors can also simply mail a check payable to "Good Neighbor Energy Fund," c/o The Salvation Army, 25 Shawmut Road, Canton, Massachusetts 02021-1408.
Participating energy companies support their respective customers' generosity through various giving programs.
For more information about how to apply for the Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund, visit your local Salvation Army Corps Community Center or call 800-334-3047 if you live in area codes 508, 617, 781 or 978 or 800-262-1320 if you live in area code 413. Web: magoodneighbor.org.

Solidarity Lowell and local groups submit petitions for better treatment of the homeless

To the editor,
A coalition of local groups and citizens organized by Solidarity Lowell submitted a petition to the Lowell City Council, presenting a set of citizens' requested changes to Lowell's Unhoused Persons Liaison Protocol, to be considered at the Lowell City Council meeting on Tuesday, April 11.
In light of recent events, aspects of the City of Lowell's practices towards unhoused individuals have come under fire from a broad array of service providers, activists, community leaders, and residents (housed and unhoused), and the purpose of this petition is to outline the critical first steps toward successful reintegration of our unhoused community. The intent of this petition is to invite the city to focus on the interactions which are already taking place under the existing policy, and incorporate changes that will advance the city's goals in a manner consistent with its values.
We offer these suggestions to aid in the development of the City of Lowell Homeless Encampment Health and Safety Protocol.
After witnessing one wintertime "sweep" of a homeless encampment, Brad Buitenhuys, Executive Director of the Lowell Litter Krewe, observed, "We do not have the services in place to get everyone out of the cold if they choose. And until those services are in place, we are putting lives at risk" (with these sweeps).
Materials being used to sustain life have been thrown into dumpsters; important documents de-

stroyed and lost; traumatized people rousted from the only homes they were able to obtain for themselves, and left to wander the streets.
These actions are inconsistent with the values of a city that has put considerable resources into providing shelter and other services to help fight homelessness. By providing basic services to people without a place to live, adopting policies that respect the dignity and needs of unhoused people, and pursuing a collaborative approach with providers and unhoused people themselves, the city can more effectively address the needs and quality of life concerns of housed and unhoused Lowellians alike.
Lowell should not conduct inhumane and ineffective actions just because no one came up with a better idea.
The requests represent a set of standards that incorporate input from a broad and knowledgeable coalition of Lowell activists, providers, and leaders, as well as best practices from other communities. We offer this document in the spirit of cooperation as an awakened community strives to do better in the midst of the housing crisis.
Organizations and individuals are invited to view and sign the petition prior to the City Council meeting on April 11, 2023, here: bit.ly/unhoused-petition
About Solidarity Lowell: Solidarity Lowell is a volunteer-based group of community members of Greater Lowell working toward social justice by de-

fending the human rights, dignity, and equality of all persons against hate and discrimination.
Learn more about Solidarity Lowell at our website: <https://www.solidaritylowell.com>, visit our Facebook page: <http://facebook.com/solidaritylowell/> Inquiries should be directed to Chris Offerman of the Solidarity Lowell Coordinating Committee, at (978) 808-9809
Petition:
Citizens' Requested Changes to Lowell Unhoused Persons Liaison Protocol
This document was created by community members in conjunction with those who work with Lowell's unhoused population.
After recent events, it has become clear that the City of Lowell needs to reconsider aspects of its treatment of our population of unhoused individuals. We, the undersigned, request the following protocol be implemented by the City of Lowell and made public:
• No encampment sweeps, ESPECIALLY during the winter months. These are extremely disruptive to the unhoused population and results in them losing their belongings, access to medical care/services, safety, support systems — often their only means to survive.
• Request that the city issues a weekly public document outlining the number of adult emergency shelter open beds compared to the number of unhoused persons, or ahead of any attempted relocation.
• Request that the city support agencies focused on acquiring the appropriate volume of individual shelter beds in a fair and equitable manner, with a diverse group of agencies with varied expertise. We demand that our community always has enough emergency shelter beds equal to the average number of unhoused individuals our city sees year to year and increase or decrease needs as they arise.
• Request that a city liaison support service providers as they visit each camp of unhoused individ-

uals to be able to provide resources and rides to shelter or appropriate facilities, with the intent of maximizing the likelihood that an encampment resident enters into the care of the established resource providers. The city liaison should help to make sure the providers on the ground have the resources they need as requested.
• Request that programs that provide transportation to shelter, meal programs, drop in centers, places with showers, or homeless support services be supported, and if not available such programs should be implemented.
• The city should be aware that some homeless individuals live in their cars. We support the fair treatment of these individuals like anyone living outside. We request that they not be ticketed or towed but instead are supported and befriended by outreach organizations and law enforcement in an effort to encourage them to seek services.
• Request that any movement of unhoused individuals be scheduled at least a month in advance, and that the persons and their service providers be notified in writing once movement is scheduled, and the individuals have vacated the premises with their belongings before any cleanup begins.
• Request that trash pickup be established at each encampment with sharps disposal as needed.
• If the unhoused person is unable to obtain storage for their belongings, request that the city store for 60 days one box of unique documentation and personal items which will only make the process of leaving homelessness more difficult in the future were they to lose these items.
• Request to include transportation of belongings from encampment to storage if requested.
• Request that the Director of Homelessness Initiatives and the Hunger and Homeless Commission address these and future recommendations and be accessible publicly via the City of Lowell website.

• Request that provisions be made with animal shelters to provide short-term care for any pets of encampment residents, until they are reclaimed by owners after resettlement.
• Request that warming stations be created anytime the temperature dips below 32 degrees or during snowstorms, and that service providers be involved during these times. These warming stations should be equipped with relevant safety measures including sharps containers and Narcan-trained staff and access to Narcan. Also assure that sleeping is allowed at these warming stations.
• Request that the city support service providers and help to coordinate agencies as they provide accessible treatment options to people who live with substance use disorder or individuals experiencing symptoms of mental illness.
• Request that the city mandates the fair treatment of all unhoused persons at all times in all divisions, including city offices, the Lowell Police Department, the Lowell Fire Department, etc. These

are federally protected persons and any form of touch could be severely traumatizing. Their privacy needs to be respected.
• Request that the city recognize the specific needs of minors experiencing homelessness and work with agencies that work with youth to develop a plan focusing on them.
...
This was the basis for our request:
The US Inter-Agency Council on Homelessness clearly states the seven principles for addressing encampments:
1. Establish a cross-agency, multi-sector response.
2. Engage encampment residents to develop solutions.
3. Conduct comprehensive and coordinated outreach.
4. Address basic needs and provide storage.
5. Ensure access to shelter or housing options.
6. Develop pathways to permanent housing and supports.
7. Create a plan for what will happen to encampment sites after closure.

Want your opinion heard?

We LOVE your letters!
Send Letters to the Editor to:
office@yourtowncrier.com.

All submissions must be accompanied by full name, address, and daytime contact information for verification purposes.
Letters must be e-mailed by noon on Monday in order for consideration the same week's edition.

Town Crier

Tewksbury - Wilmington

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Lifestyle

EASTER LILIES

A sign of hope and faith

By HEATHER BURNS
News Correspondent

The celebration of Easter is often filled with many traditional sights and smells of the season.

For many families, these familiar signs include early spring daffodil sprouting in the yard, the anticipation of the Easter Bunny's visit with baskets of colored eggs and jelly beans, and the heavy scent of milk chocolate and glazed ham that fills your home as family and friends gather around the dinner table.

All of these traditions are pleasant reminders of a family holiday celebration, but there is one unmistakable Easter tradition that fills the air with the sweet smell of springtime and offers purity and hope of this Holy season.

Easter Lilies have long been a simplistic symbol of the Easter holiday, rich in history and tradition.

Known for its large, white, trumpet shaped blossoms and heavenly, sweet fragrance, this seasonal plant has become a symbol for Christians around the world, and is particularly popular here in the United States.

The Easter Lilies botanical name is *Lilium Longiflorum*, but it is often referred to as the "White Robed Apostle of Hope," symbolizing the purity of

Christ.

White lilies, such as Easter Lilies, are used throughout the Bible as a symbol of purity, and have been historically depicted in many ancient works of biblical art.

Because of the unique trumpet shape of the Easter Lily blossom, it is thought to represent a trumpet sounding out the message that "Jesus has Risen."

The nature of the Easter Lilies growing process is also considered reminiscent of Christ's death and resurrection, representing rebirth and hope as told in the Christian faith, and further confirming the symbolism of the Easter Lily.

Although now commonplace in the United States, the Easter Lily is native to several islands south of Japan.

Introduced to Europe in the early 19th century and the U.S. in the late 19th century, Japan remained the main provider of the Easter Lily plant to the rest of the world until the early 20th century.

It wasn't until after WWI that a U.S. soldier, who was also an avid horticulturist, brought back a suitcase full of Lily bulbs from Japan to his home state of Oregon and tried his hand, or rather his green thumb, at growing Easter Lilies locally here in the United States.

Luckily, the California-

Oregon border area offered ideal growing conditions for this plant, so when all trade ceased with Japan during WWII, lily greenhouses and farms exploded in the California-Oregon region, eventually becoming known as the Easter Lily capital of the world.

Today, California and Oregon produce the majority of the world's Easter Lily crop.

Easter Lilies add natural beauty, fragrance and biblical symbolism to your holiday decor, but cat owners be warned, as this traditional Easter plant can cause severe harm or death to your cat.

According to Poison Control, all lily plants, including Easter Lilies, are hazardous to a feline's health. If a cat accidentally consumes any part of a lily plant (including the water in a vase that cut lilies are kept in) it can cause kidney failure that can lead to death.

This condition only applies to cats.

Lilies are not poisonous to children or dogs, but it is a good idea to keep lily plants and all plants out of reach of small children as they could become a choking hazard if swallowed.

If cats are not part of your household, you can decorate with Easter lilies worry free, and enjoy their beauty throughout the holiday.

After the holiday, you can



▲ Easter Lilies are a traditional symbol of purity, hope and rebirth for the Easter season. (Heather Burns photo)

continue to enjoy your lily plant year after year as a perennial plant in your garden.

Easter Lilies bought during Easter week have been forced in a greenhouse to produce an early bloom season, but their natural bloom season is mid summer.

Easter Lilies grow best in the growing zones of 4 through 8, and Massachusetts ranges from a zone 5 to 7, making it an ideal area to transplant your Easter Lily.

After your plant has finished flowering, remove any dead blossoms, but leave the green stems.

Continue to water occasionally until the plant's foliage and stems begin to die back.

Stop watering, and cut the

stems to about one inch above the soil.

Once the rest of the stem and the root bulb has completely dried out, remove from the soil in the pot and store the bulb in a cool, dark place like the basement or garage until fall.

Plant bulbs outdoors a few weeks before the typical first frost.

Bulbs should be planted in well-drained soil twice the depth of the bulb to prevent heaving from the winter freeze and thaw cycle.

When choosing an area to plant your lily, keep in mind that although Easter Lilies prefer full sun, they can not tolerate extreme heat and humidity and would benefit by getting partial shade during midday.

To keep plants strong year

after year, remember to cut the entire plant back to soil level each fall after the summer blooming season.

This time of year always has many plant options, offering the bright colors of the spring season to decorate your home.

However, during the Holy Easter season, consider celebrating with the simplistic beauty and symbolism that the traditional Easter Lily has to offer.

The large white blossoms and sweet fragrance of the Easter Lily will fill your home with a reminder of what the Easter holiday is really all about, and after the season is over, you can continue to enjoy the pleasant symbol of hope and rebirth in your garden for years to come.

By ROSALYN IMPINK
News Correspondent

Celebrate Rt. 1's charm, kitsch and culture

Taking a trip down Rt. 1 in Saugus can be a harrowing experience, reinforcing the stereotype that New Englanders are terrible drivers. However, this byway was once an iconic part of the Massachusetts tradition, serving as a destination for thousands of families to celebrate birthdays, weddings, and all of life's milestones.

More than a dozen mega-restaurants long served as offbeat roadside attractions, many of which were founded in the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s and stayed open for more than half a century.

Longtime Massachusetts residents might remember visiting any number of these massive, thousand-seater institutions, many of which

have since been demolished, including the veritable palace that was Weylu's, Frank Giuffrida's Hilltop Steak House, and the Diamond Head Restaurant.

Some of the top-grossing restaurants in the region, and even in the world, called Rt. 1 home. Over time, the mega-restaurant fell out of style, becoming economically infeasible, and most of these classic locations closed down. Only Kowloon Restaurant and Prince Pizzeria — complete with a Leaning Tower of Pisa on the roof — remain in business, and Karl's Sausage Kitchen has since moved to Peabody.

Still, the classic kitsch of

Rt. 1 remains: the original Hilltop sign, a giant cactus, has been preserved as a landmark adapted to market the current mixed-use development on site, and an old mini golf course's giant orange Tyrannosaurus Rex keeps watch over its territory.

Rt. 1's storied history has spread across the state. In 1979, the Hilltop became part of a longstanding prank tradition at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology known as "hacking" — students stole the restaurant's life-size fiberglass cow, Ferdi, and placed it atop the school's Great Dome. Ferdi was eventually donated to the school by the restaurant's owners and today is on display at the MIT Stata Center.

Other cows are on display in Lynnfield's Market Street center.

Perhaps no stop on Rt. 1 is more iconic than Kowloon, the massive 50,000 square foot, 1,200 seat restaurant that carries on the North Shore's history as other institutions have fallen away. Originally founded in 1950, Madeline and Bill Wong purchased the restaurant in 1958 and Kowloon remains in the family.

The restaurant boasts an impressive pan-Asian menu, tying together a wide array of Chinese, Japanese, Thai, and Polynesian cuisines.

Imposing pupu platters, famous mai tais, and crowd-favorite Saugus wings are all on order, ensuring a filling meal and leftovers for later.

Part of Kowloon's charm is its elaborate themed rooms. The Tiki Lagoon boasts fountains next to booths, while the Volcano Bay Room glows around a giant ship, complete with sails, lifeboats, and rigging. The Hong Kong Lounge, Mandarin Room, and Thai Grille

each have their own aesthetic.

Kowloon's cultural impact stretches beyond the North Shore. WrestleMania fans will have recently seen West Newbury native John Cena sporting a pair of Kowloon-themed Nike sneakers during a match, representing the restaurant's signature red, black, and gold colors and logo.

The Kowloon Comedy Klub, located on the restaurant's second floor, has hosted comedians from near

and far, including Phyllis Diller, Tracy Morgan, Bill Burr, Kathy Griffin, and Jerry Seinfeld, before he became a sitcom star.

Time is running out to visit the original Kowloon, as the Wong family is planning to downsize the property in the coming years, potentially demolishing the current building to make way for housing while still maintaining a restaurant presence. Make your way up to Saugus to experience the heyday of Rt. 1's kitsch, charm, and celebration of North Shore food culture.



▲ The Kowloon Restaurant has been a feature of the Rt. 1 skyline in Saugus for nearly 70 years.

(Rosalyn Impink photo)



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www.homenewshere.com OR masspublicnotices.org/Search.aspx

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
BOARD OF HEALTH

PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Board of Health will hold a public hearing on April 20, 2023 at 6:00 PM at Town Hall 1009 Main Street, First Floor Main Hall Meeting Room Tewksbury, MA requested by Richard Blanchard, Jr. 31 Fieldstone Cr., Tewksbury, MA for an animal permit as found in section 5.3 of the Minimum Standards for the Keeping of Animals. The hearing will also be available for viewing on the following cable public access channels: Verizon Channel 33 and Comcast Channel 99.

At that time, all interested parties will be heard. Copies of the application are available at the Tewksbury Board of Health Office located at the Tewksbury Town Hall.

Legal notice can also be viewed on www.masspublicnotices.org
Raymond Barry, BOH Chairman
230423 4/5/23

LEGAL NOTICE



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY

Notice is hereby given that the Select Board will conduct a public hearing in accordance with Mass. General Laws, Chapter 138, on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. on the application of MB Spirits, LLC d/b/a MB Spirits by Ronald T. Lambert, Manager to transfer an all-Alcoholic Beverage License from Mall Liquors, Inc. d/b/a Lincoln Liquors and to operate this license on said premises located at 10 Main Street, Tewksbury, Massachusetts described as approximately 8,876 sq. ft. of an on ground level of building, including entry/exit vestibule, retail sales area, storage room and office. The hearing will be held in the Select Board's meeting room, Main Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA.

Input is welcome from the public. The Select Board recommends that comments be submitted in writing to the Select Board, Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA, 01876 on or before noon time Friday, April 21, 2023.

Todd Johnson, Esquire, Chair
Select Board
230429 4/5/23

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

MIDDLESEX DIVISION

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

Docket No. MI22P5470EA

Estate of: Mark E. Power
Date of Death: June 3, 2022

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Joanne M. Power of Tewksbury MA a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Joanne M. Power of Tewksbury MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

230413 4/5/23

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Saturday, April 29, 2023

9:00 a.m.

Wilmington High School
Joanne M. Benton Auditorium
230408 4/5,12,19/23

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
PLANNING BOARD

PUBLIC HEARING

SIGN SPECIAL PERMIT

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Planning Board will hold a public hearing on April 24, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. in the Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876 on an application filed by Metro Sign & Awning for Tewksbury Youth Baseball on behalf of the Town of Tewksbury for a Sign Special Permit pursuant to Section 6.2 of the Tewksbury Zoning Bylaw to install new electronic message center sign as shown on plans filed with this Board.

Said property is located at 90 Chandler Street, Assessor's Map 76, Lot 32, zoned Park.

The application may be examined on the Planning Board webpage of the Town of Tewksbury's website at www.tewksbury-ma.gov. Should other accommodations be necessary to view the application, please call the Community Development Office at 978-640-4370. Legal Notice can also be viewed on www.masspublicnotices.org.

Stephen Johnson, Chairman
230421 4/5,12/23

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

MIDDLESEX DIVISION

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

Docket No. MI23P1526EA

Estate of: Joan Marie Sawyer
Also Known As:
Joan M. Sawyer
Date of Death: 8/19/2022

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Carol Chapman of Reading MA a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Carol Chapman of Reading MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

230426 4/5/23



LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
Wilmington Town Hall
121 Glen Road
Wilmington, MA 01887INVITATION
TURF MANAGEMENT
SERVICES
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Town of Wilmington, MA invites proposals for Turf Management Services. The contract will cover a three-year period, FY 2024 through FY 2026.

This procurement is being solicited under the provisions of MGL Chapter 30B as amended.

Proposals may be submitted by mail to the Town Manager at the above address. All proposals must be received **BEFORE 10:00 A.M. ON MAY 3, 2023.**

Proposal Documents containing Specifications, Requirements, and Conditions may be obtained at the Town's website: <http://www.wilmingtonma.gov/purchasing-department> or by emailing tdonahue@wilmingtonma.gov

Technical questions pertaining to the proposal should be directed to the DPW Director, Jamie Magaldi at 978-658-4481.

The Town of Wilmington specifically reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or to award or not to award the contract, for any reason the Town determines to be in the Town's best interest.

Four (4) copies of the technical proposal shall be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Turf Management Services for Town of Wilmington - Non-Price Proposal" and one (1) copy of the price proposal shall be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Turf Management Services for Town of Wilmington - Price Proposal".

Technical Proposals and Price Proposals must be separately sealed to be considered eligible.

Jeffrey M. Hull
Town Manager
230425 4/5/23

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON,
MASSACHUSETTS

INVITATION FOR BIDS

ROOF REPLACEMENT
PROJECT
WEST INTERMEDIATE
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Town of Wilmington is soliciting bids to furnish labor and materials for replacing the roof of the West Intermediate Elementary School. The project will require Department of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) certification in Roofing. The rate of wages paid for the work must be in accordance with MA prevailing wage rates. Work must be completed no later than Tuesday, August 8, 2023.

Specifications for the Invitation for Bids (IFB) will be available electronically on Wednesday, April 5, 2023, by visiting the Town of Wilmington website (<http://www.wilmingtonma.gov/purchasing-department>). Copies (hard) of the documents may be obtained from the Russo Barr Associates, Inc. a Division of SOCOTEC, 55 Sixth Road, Suite 6, Woburn, MA 01801, 781-273-1537 x20, for a non-

LEGAL NOTICE
MORTGAGEE'S SALE
OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Sean C. Moroney to The Savings Bank, dated December 6, 2013 and registered at Middlesex County (Northern District) Registry District of the Land Court in Document No. 276195, as noted on Certificate of Title No. 41631, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder The Savings Bank, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosure same will be sold at public auction at 10:00 AM, on May 4, 2023 on the mortgaged premises being known as 5 Carter Road a/k/a 5 Carter Street, Wilmington, MA, being all and singular the premises described in said mortgage to wit:

A certain parcel of land situated in Wilmington, in the County of Middlesex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows: SOUTHWESTERLY by Carter Street, one hundred thirty-three

and 76/100 (133.76) feet; NORTHWESTERLY by land now or formerly of Lepore Guiseppe, two hundred and 34/100 (200.34) feet;

NORTHEASTERLY by Cullen Street, one hundred forty-five and 32/100 (145.32) feet; and SOUTHEASTERLY by Lots 34 and 19, two hundred (200) feet. All of said boundaries are determined by the Land Court to be located as shown on subdivision plan 10921 B, Sheet one (1), drawn by Alfred Millhouse, C.E., dated June 1925, as approved by the Court, filed in the Land Registration Office, a copy of a portion of which is filed with Certificate of Title 3006, and said land is shown as Lots fourteen (14) to eighteen (18) and thirty-five (35) to thirty-nine (39) inclusive on said plan.

Sealed responses, clearly labeled "IFB - ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT WEST INTERMEDIATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL" will be received in the office of the Town Manager, Jeffrey M. Hull, Town Hall, 121 Glen Road, MA until 2:00 P.M. on April 21, 2023.

Each proponent shall submit three (3) hard copies of the response to this Invitation for Bids (IFB). Each response shall clearly identify the proponent's name and business address.

Bid Deadline: Friday,
April 21, 2023, at 2:00 PM

The Town shall not be responsible for proposals arriving late due to couriers, deliveries to wrong locations, express mailing services, delays related to processing of mail requests for specs and plans etc. or any reason whatsoever. Postmarks will not be considered.

Jeffrey M. Hull
Town Manager
230439 4/5/23

LEGAL NOTICE

MORTGAGEE'S SALE
OF REAL ESTATE

Being the same premises as conveyed to the mortgagor by deed dated December 6, 2013, recorded with Middlesex County (Northern District) Registry District of the Land Court in Document No. 276194, as noted on Certificate of Title No. 41631.

The above described premises will be sold **SUBJECT TO**

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURTMiddlesex Probate
and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, § 5-304 & § 5-405

Docket No. MI23P1285PM

In the matter of: Ruth Kovitch
Of: Wilmington, MA
RESPONDENT
(Person to be Protected/Minor)

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Minuteman Senior Services, Inc. in the above captioned matter alleging that Ruth Kovitch is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that J. Marlin Hawthorne of Cohasset, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve With Personal Surety on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is

disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of \$7,500.00 DOLLARS shall be required to be made to the mortgagee in cash, by certified or by cashier's check at the time and place of the sale as a deposit. The successful bidder will be required to execute an Auction Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, by certified check, by cashier's check, or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee's attorney within thirty (30) days thereafter at the offices of BARSH AND COHEN, P.C., Attorneys for the Mortgagee, 500 Turnpike Street Suite 201, Canton, MA 02021, in exchange for which and at such time and place, the deed shall be delivered to the purchaser for recording.

The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in the Notice of Mortgagee's Sale or its publication.

OTHER TERMS TO BE ANNOUNCED AT THE TIME AND PLACE OF THE SALE.

Dated: March 29, 2023
(signed): The Savings Bank
Present Holder of said Mortgage
By its Attorneys,
Barsh and Cohen, P.C.

Neil Cohen, Esquire
Attorney for the Mortgagee
500 Turnpike Street Suite 201,
Canton, MA 02021
(617) 332-4700
230430 4/5,12,19/23

PUBLIC NOTICES

Every day throughout the United States newspapers publish thousands of public notices about events, conditions or actions that affect countless individuals, families, neighborhoods and businesses. Public notices cover many topics including guardianships, conservatorships and protective orders, probating wills, business matters, liquor licensing, public auctions and sales, estates, zoning, public meetings, bids to sell goods and services to the government, auctions to dispose of surplus government equipment, local government finances and state and local elections. The public notice is a fundamental component of our system of representative democracy, which depends upon the participation of educated, responsible citizens.

The Town Crier is
the Newspaper of Record
in Wilmington and Tewksbury,
Massachusetts.

Public notices are published weekly.

To place your notice email it to:
legals@dailytimesinc.com
Deadline for Wednesday's paper is 10 AM on Tuesday

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/27/2023.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED
ADMINISTRATION UNDER
THE MASSACHUSETTS
UNIFORM PROBATE
CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Maureen H. Monks, First Justice of this Court.
Date: March 30, 2023

Tara E. DeCristofaro,
Register of Probate
230437 4/5/23

disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 04/25/2023. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Any one may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Maureen H. Monks, First Justice of this Court.
Date: March 28, 2023

Tara E. DeCristofaro,
Register of Probate
230438 4/5/23

The Mortgagee reserves the right to amend the foregoing terms of sale by written or oral announcement made before the auction sale, during the sale thereof or at the commencement of or during any postponed sale, the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, and to postpone the sale up until the time the property is declared sold by the auctioneer.

The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in the Notice of Mortgagee's Sale or its publication.

OTHER TERMS TO BE ANNOUNCED AT THE TIME AND PLACE OF THE SALE.

Dated: March 29, 2023
(signed): The Savings Bank
Present Holder of said Mortgage
By its Attorneys,
Barsh and Cohen, P.C.

Neil Cohen, Esquire
Attorney for the Mortgagee
500 Turnpike Street Suite 201,
Canton, MA 02021
(617) 332-4700
230430 4/5,12,19/23



▲ Brent Conway (left), Chair of 100 People Who Care Tewksbury, presents Bill Welch, President of the Tewksbury Community Pantry, with a check for \$10,000 after the organization chose the community pantry to receive its 2023 Q1 Impact Award. (Courtesy photo)

Tewksbury Community Pantry receives 100 People Impact Award

TEWKSBURY — At last Monday's 100 People Who Care Tewksbury quarterly giving event, members selected the Tewksbury Community Pantry to receive the group's first \$10,000 Impact Award for 2023. This marks more than \$100,000 in Impact Awards donated by group members plus significant funds donated to other presenting nonprofits.

Tewksbury Community Pantry President and Director Bill Welch spoke about the food pantry and the impact that the organization has on Tewksbury residents facing food insecurity.

The Tewksbury Community Pantry was established in January 1995 and provides confidential short- and long-term food assistance to Tewksbury residents in financial need and to people who are referred by Tewksbury clergy and the town clerk's office.

There are three distributions of food monthly

to more than 200 Tewksbury seniors, adults and children. Over \$250,000 worth of food is distributed annually.

Welch said that the money from this award will help offset increased costs of food as well as an expected increase in client's food needs as pandemic benefits being received through the SNAP program end on March 1.

The Pantry's biggest fundraiser of the year, netting approximately \$10,000, has been a golf tournament hosted at the Tewksbury Country Club for the past 24 years. Because it's unlikely the tournament will be held this year, the Impact Award funds will help fill that financial void as the organization looks to find a long-term solution and replacement for those funds.

The two runners-up, The Tewksbury Memorial High School Theater Company and Newhouse Wildlife Rescue, each re-

ceived a number of individual donations in addition to the \$250 provided by two generous sponsors, ECO Auto of Tewksbury and Dance Expressions.

100 People Tewksbury Chair Brent Conway gave opening remarks and announced that the 2022 Q4 Impact Award winner, Girls Inc., was unable to attend the event due to the date change but would provide a video detailing the award impact that would be sent to all members.

Conway also thanked Luna Rosa, which donated its function room for the event, and announced that the 100 People Tewksbury group plans to expand its use of the Grapevine platform.

Learn more at the group's website and Facebook page.

A video of the presentations is available on Tewksbury TV.

History:

'Hey, we're in the middle of a gang war'

By LARZ F. NEILSON

Wilmington's first Good Guy, Rocco DePasquale, was quite well-known in town 50 years ago. He ran Rocco's Restaurant, which his father had built in 1940.

Rocco was also a community leader and a member of the Lions Club, a service organization known for its fun-loving ways. On the 18th of April in '73, Rocco was in the restaurant late one evening with two fellow Lions, Nicky DeFelice and Carl Davidson.

He was waiting for a repairman to fix a broken window. A little kid had accidentally broken a window in the restaurant and Rocco didn't want to leave until it was repaired. About midnight, he called home to let his wife know what was going on.

Rita was quite upset, but not at his late hours. She had seen three men prowling in the back yard for the past half hour.

So Rocco dashed home to Adams Street, arriving at 12:15 a.m. The lights were on and there was a

guy in back of the house. The guy went around to the front of the house, with Rocco chasing him. Then Nicky and Carl pulled into the driveway. Nicky was wearing a new suit, and his past experience had been that there was trouble every time he got a new suit.

Rocco grabbed the guy. "What the hell are you doing here?"

"Oh," said the guy, "I'm your neighbor. I live in back of you."

"Well, get out of here! I want you out — now!"

Then Rocco noticed a couple of more men. One of them turned around and said, "I don't leave until the other guy pulls in."

What happened next was just like in the movies. Five or six cars came roaring down Adams Street from Parker Street, and another from the opposite direction. They all stopped in front of Rocco's house and several men piled out.

"Hey!" yelled Nicky, "We're in the middle of a gang war!"

He took off his coat and

put it on the ground, ready for action.

One of the new arrivals went after some of those who had been there before. He tackled one guy and put handcuffs on him.

Rocco, Nicky and Carl still didn't know what was going on. It wasn't a gang war, but a drug raid, and a big one, by federal narcotics officers and Wilmington police. They were interested in the house behind Rocco's.

One of the officers approached Rocco, saying, "Okay, you can go home now. The show's over."

"What do you mean, I can go home? You're in my back yard!"

That wasn't the only message the federal officer got. Another came from Rita DePasquale. At least he could have told her what was going on!

But the Fed wasn't too interested. He and the local cops had just seized about \$10,000 worth of marijuana which had just come up from Mexico. There was also alleged to have been a supply of LSD.

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Herb Chambers

It's Time To Trade Up!



2014 Nissan Pathfinder SV AWD \$11,898
HP7512, Auto., Artic Blue, 114K miles

2016 Ford Focus SE Hatchback \$11,998
HP752011, Auto., White, 98K miles

2015 Honda Accord LX Sedan \$11,998
H230267, Auto., Hematite Metallic, 133K miles

2012 Toyota Corolla LE Sedan \$13,998
H230302, Auto., Red, 77K miles

2014 Toyota Corolla L Sedan \$14,898
H230310, Auto., Silver, 76K miles

2009 Honda CRV EX-L AWD \$14,998
H230340, Auto., Glacier Blue Metallic, 66K miles

2010 Nissan Frontier SE 4WD \$15,998
H230403, Auto., Gray, 63K miles

2012 Honda CRV EX AWD \$15,998
HP75311, Auto., Urban Titanium Met., 97K miles

2014 Infiniti Q50 Premium AWD \$15,998
H230228, Auto., Silver, 106K miles

2013 Toyota Camry LE \$16,498
HP7540, Auto., Silver, 52K miles

2013 Honda Accord EX Sedan \$17,498
H2303301, Auto., Modern Steel Met., 46K miles

2013 Toyota Tacoma SR5 2WD \$17,998
H230212, Auto., Silver, 73K miles

2014 Honda Pilot EX-L 4WD \$18,998
H230408, Auto., Obsidian Blue Pearl, 76K miles

2017 Chrysler Touring L FWD \$18,998
H230325, Auto., White, 85K miles

2015 Honda CRV EX AWD \$18,998
CP0147, Auto., Kona Coffee Metallic, 86K miles

2018 Chevy Equinox LT 1.5T AWD \$19,998
H230246, Auto., Red, 54K miles

2015 Toyota Rav 4 Limited \$20,498
H230299, Auto., Silver, 64K miles

2020 Honda Civic LX Sedan \$20,698
H230199, Auto., Rallye Red, 33K miles

2020 Honda Civic LX Sedan \$20,698
H220861, Auto., Modern Steel, 42K miles

2019 Honda Civic EX Sedan \$20,998
CP1044, Auto., Cosmic Blue Metallic, 21K miles

2020 Kia Forte GT Line \$20,998
H230337, Auto., Gravity Gray, 21K miles

2015 Toyota Rav 4 LE AWD \$21,498
H230255, Auto., Beige, 20K miles

2019 Honda Civic LX Sedan \$21,698
HP75241, Auto., Crystal Black Pearl, 33K miles

MANAGER'S SPECIALS

2020 Honda HR-V EX AWD

Platinum White Pearl
28K miles • #H230263



\$25,998

2021 Honda HR-V Sport

AWD • Milano Red
19K miles • #HP7530



\$26,898

2020 Honda Civic LX Sedan \$21,698
H230326, Auto., Crystal Black Pearl, 39K miles

2020 Honda Civic LX Sedan \$21,698
H230327, Auto., Modern Steel, 31K miles

2019 Honda Civic EX Sedan \$21,898
CP0144, Auto., Aegean Blue Metallic, 55K miles

2019 Honda Civic LX Sedan \$21,998
H230297, Auto., Aegean Blue Metallic, 34K miles

2014 Subaru WRX Premium Wagon \$21,998
H230808, 6 Speed, Black, 64K miles

2020 Honda Civic LX Sedan \$21,998
H230281, Auto., Lunar Silver, 41K miles

2020 Honda Civic EX-L Sedan \$23,498
H23048, Auto., Lunar Silver, 41K miles

2019 Honda Civic EX-L Sedan \$23,998
H230385, Auto., Modern Steel, 21K miles

2020 Honda Civic Sport Sedan \$23,998
H230349, Auto., Rallye Red, 31K miles

2019 Honda Civic EX Sedan \$23,998
H230264, Auto., White, 16K miles

2019 Honda HRV LX AWD \$24,498
H230266, Auto., Crystal Black Pearl, 14K miles

2020 Honda Accord LX Sedan \$24,698
HP7508, Auto., Platinum White Pearl, 21K miles

2020 Hyundai Tucson Sport AWD \$24,998
H230354, Auto., Magnetic Force, 24K miles

2020 Honda Accord LX Sedan \$24,998
H230388, Auto., Platinum White Pearl, 24K miles

2020 Hyundai Santa FE SE AWD \$24,998
H230315, Auto., Quartz White, 28K miles

2020 Honda HRV LX AWD \$24,998
HP7535, Auto., Platinum White Pearl, 38K miles

2019 Honda HRV EX AWD \$24,998
H230265, Auto., Crystal Black Pearl, 33K miles

2020 Honda Civic EX Sedan \$24,998
H23065, Auto., Platinum White Pearl, 34K miles

2019 Honda HRV EX AWD \$25,998
H230274, Auto., Crystal Black Pearl, 17K miles

2020 Honda Accord LX Sedan \$25,998
HP7539, Auto., Radiant Red, 6K miles

2020 Honda CRV LX FWD \$25,998
HP7531, Auto., Silver, 18K miles

2020 Honda HRV EX AWD \$25,998
H230273, Auto., Modern Steel, 27K miles

2021 VW Jetta SLE Premium Sdn. \$25,998
H230333, Auto., Gray, 44K miles

2021 Honda Civic EX Sedan \$25,998
H230329, Auto., Cosmic Blue Metallic, 12K miles

2019 Honda Accord Touring \$25,998
CP0143, Hybrid, Auto., White Pearl, 65K miles

2016 Honda Pilot Elite AWD \$26,998
CP0141, Auto., Modern Steel, 65K miles

2021 Honda Civic Hatchback \$26,998
H230363, Auto., Polished Metal, 22K miles

2016 Honda Pilot Elite \$26,998
CP0141, Auto., Modern Steel, 65K miles

2021 Honda Accord LX Sedan \$26,998
HP7523, Auto., Crystal Black Pearl, 8K miles

2020 Honda Civic SI Sedan \$27,998
H230363, 6 Speed, White, 23K miles

2020 Honda Accord Hybrid Sedan \$28,498
CP0145, Auto., Lunar Silver, 21K miles

2021 Honda Accord Hybrid Sdn. \$28,998
CP0146, Auto., Lunar Silver, 36K miles

2020 Honda CRV LX AWD \$28,998
H230260, Auto., Platinum White Pearl, 25K miles

2019 Honda CRV EX-L AWD \$28,998
H230293, Auto., Dark Olive, 46K miles

2020 Honda Accord EX-L Sedan \$28,998
H230367, Auto., Modern Steel, 32K miles

2020 Toyota Rav 4 XLE \$29,698
H2301182A, Auto., Gray, 30K miles

2020 Honda Accord EX-L Sedan \$29,998
H230389, Auto., Platinum White Pearl, 26K miles

2022 Honda Accord Sport Sedan \$31,998
H230332, Auto., Sonic Gray, 2K miles

2018 Toyota Tacoma Doublecab \$31,998
H230149, SR5, Auto., White, 67K miles

2020 Honda Odyssey EX-L \$31,998
H230371, Auto., Platinum White Pearl, 38K miles

2020 Honda Pilot EX-L AWD \$32,998
H230409, Auto., White, 41K miles

2021 Honda Pilot EX-L AWD \$33,998
H230395, Auto., White, 14K miles

2020 Honda CRV Touring AWD \$33,998
H230350, Auto., Obsidian Blue, 20K miles

2019 BMW 535 XDrive AWD \$34,498
H230323, Hybrid, Auto., White, 21K miles

2020 Ford Explorer Limited \$34,998
H230396, Auto., Silver Spruce, 45K miles

2020 Acura MDX SH AWD \$36,998
H230335, Auto., Platinum White Pearl, 39K miles

2020 Acura MDX Aspec Tech \$41,898
H230342, Auto., Platinum White Pearl, 23K miles

2022 Volkswagen Golf R AWD \$50,998
H230294, 6 Speed, Black, 6K miles

2019 BMW X5 M Sport Pkg. xdrive \$50,998
H230238, Auto., Sunstone Metallic, 33K miles

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Movie Review

'Dungeons & Dragons'

Page A-9



Recipe

Parsley Deviled Eggs

Page A-9



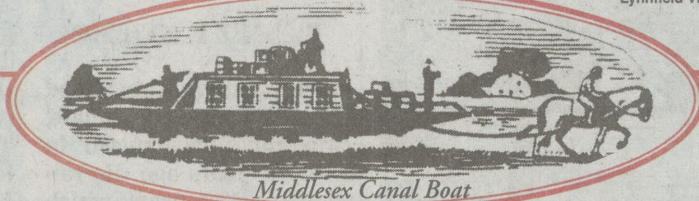
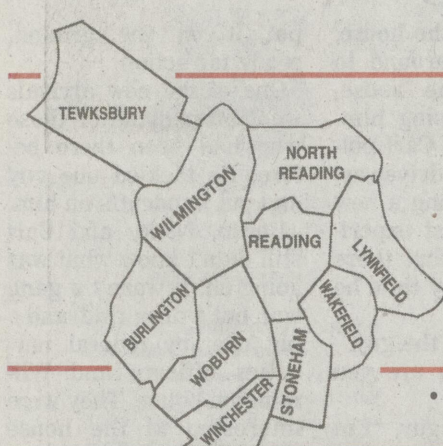
Real Estate Transfers

Page A-12



A-8 WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 6, 2023

MIDDLESEX EAST appearing in Daily Times - Chronicle (Reading, Woburn, Winchester, Burlington, Wakefield), Lynnfield Villager, No. Reading Transcript, Wilmington & Tewksbury Town Crier, Stoneham Independent



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Phase-one of multi-phased project slated to begin this summer...

Raging inflation threatens Reading's Birch Meadow Park improvement plans

By PATRICK BLAIS

When Reading's Select Board last fall slated \$1.5 million in COVID-19 bailout funds for a major park project in the heart of town, Recreation Administrator Genevieve Fiorente sat in Town Hall's hearing room in a state of disbelief.

"I feel like I have to pinch myself honestly. I never thought the day would come and that I would still be here when it happened," stated the pleasantly stunned municipal worker, who had been advocating for various components of the Birch Meadow Park project since her arrival in Reading as a recreation program coordinator in 2012.

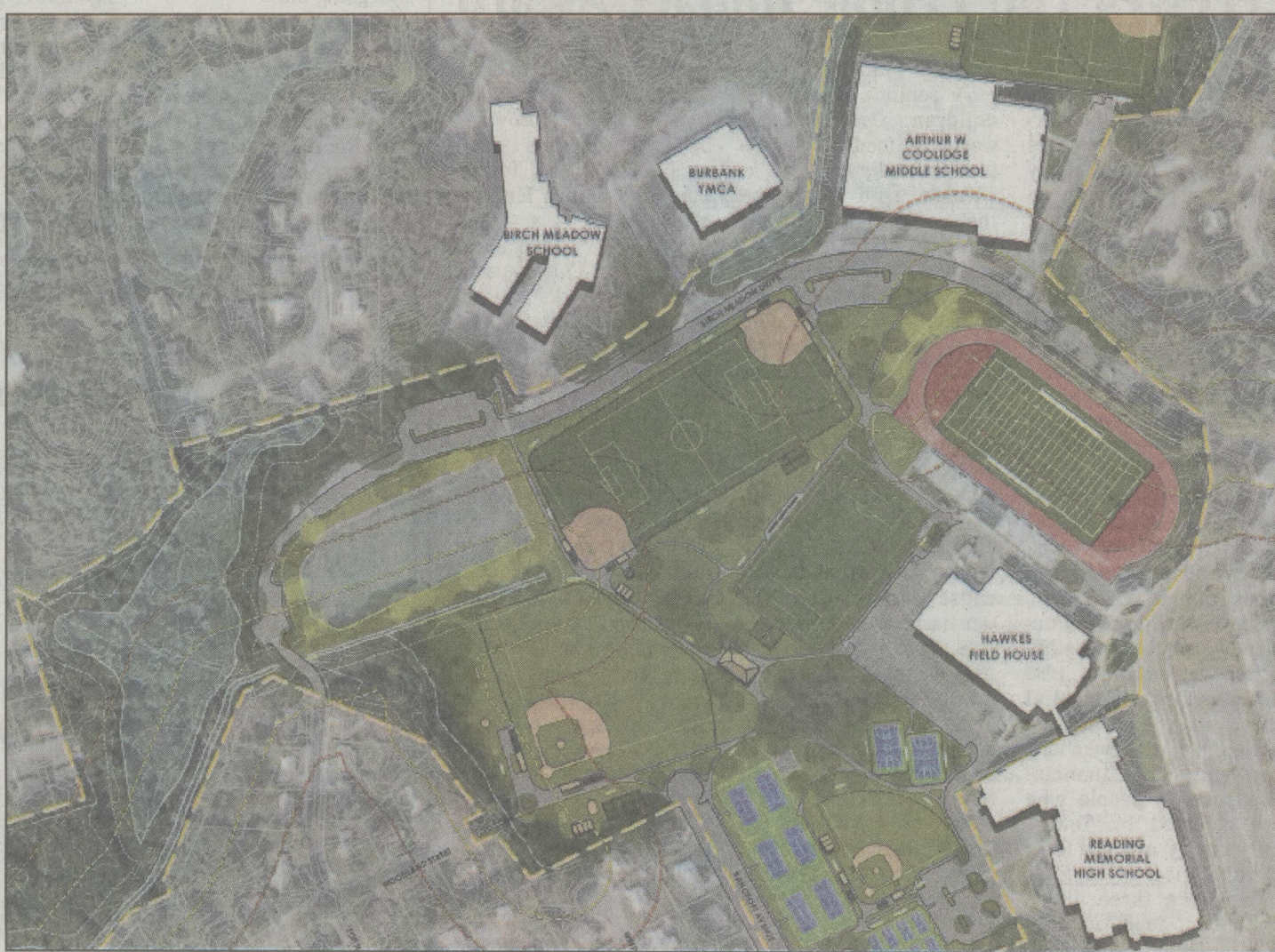
Little did Fiorente and other park plan proponents know at-the-time, in fewer than six months, unprecedented inflationary pressures in the construction sector would begin threatening to unravel the entire undertaking.

Specifically, late last month, Reading Town Manager Fidel Maltez advised the Select Board that low bids for the first-phase of the improvement plan came in nearly twice as high as initially forecast last September, when the sizable \$1.5 million share of the towns' \$7.2 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding was allocated for the improvements.

"If you recall, we heard from the architect that with inflation and everything happening with the economy, the \$1.5 million estimate given was likely going to be blown out. Unfortunately, the architect was correct," Maltez appraised the elected officials in early March.

Now, Town Meeting members are being asked to make up for that shortfall by redirecting \$1.2 million in funding from capital projects and other reserves towards the phase one initiative. If approved, the full scope of improvements will begin as soon as this summer, including a major "Imagination Station" parking lot overhaul by the community's Coolidge Middle School, the

PARK TO A-9



PROPOSED BIRCH MEADOW PARK IMPROVEMENT PLAN - The above graphic shows the expanse of athletic fields and conservation lands northwest of Reading Center that would be tied together under a Birch Meadow master plan unveiled back in the Spring of 2021. Town officials are hoping to fund the first phase of the estimated \$10 to \$17 million undertaking, which would be constructed in three stages. (Courtesy Image)

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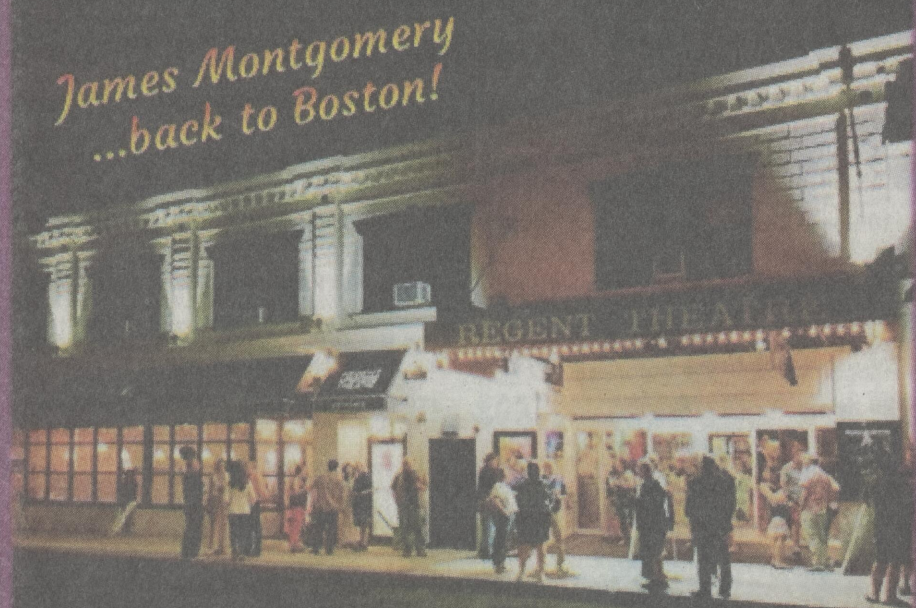
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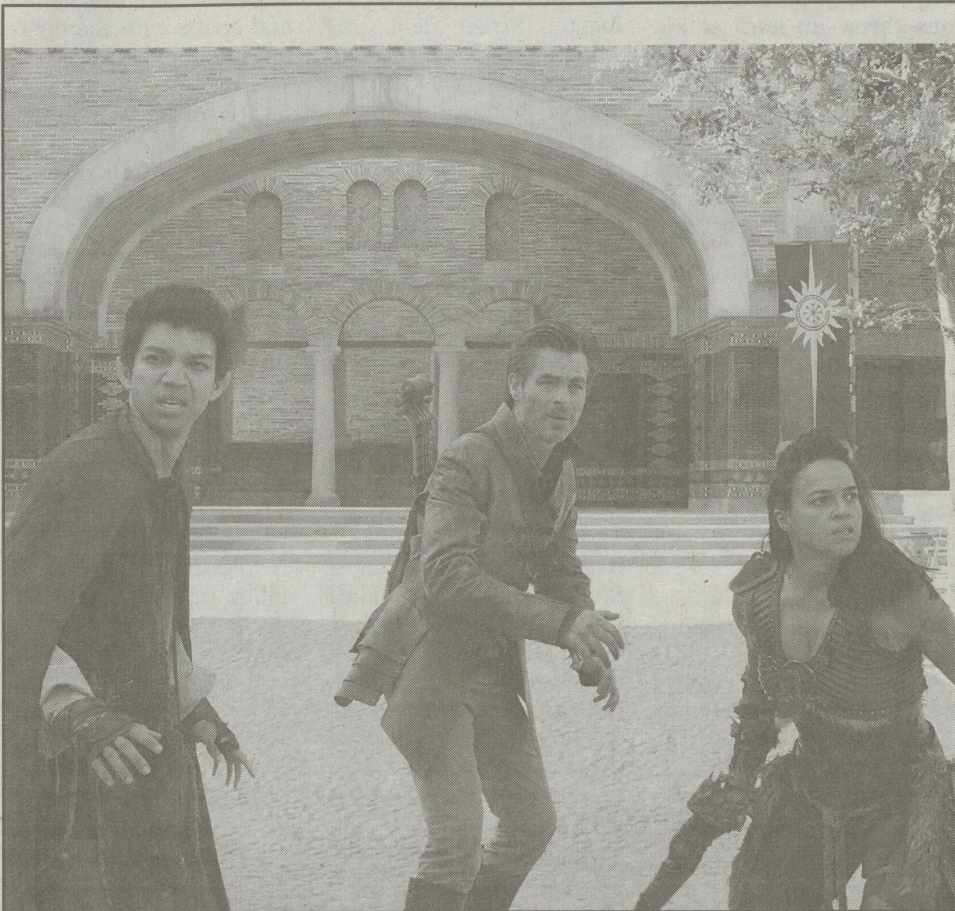
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Movie Reviews & Box Office News

'Dungeons & Dragons' puts the funny in fantasy



A FANTASY ADVENTURE - Left to right, Justice Smith, Chris Pine and Michelle Rodriguez in a scene from "Dungeons & Dragons: Honor Among Thieves" from Paramount Pictures. (Paramount Pictures via AP)

By JOCELYN NOVECK
AP National Writer

"You're not a lot of fun, are you," notes barbarian Holga (Michelle Rodriguez) to brave fighter Xenk (Regé-Jean Page) in the new "Dungeons & Dragons" film, making two jokes at once.

The first is that Xenk, a paladin (or holy knight) in "D&D" lingo, is everything BUT fun — gorgeous, noble, heroic, smart, and did we mention gorgeous? He's just REALLY not fun, or funny. He's so not funny, it's hilarious.

The second, broader joke is that "Dungeons & Dragons: Honor Among Thieves," hotly awaited by devotees of the decades-old role-playing game, makes darned sure to be fun, and funny — enough to laugh at itself. And that's the thing that makes it work.

At least, for a newbie like me. I've never played the game, I confess. But this is a movie, not a game, and I'm here to tell you how it works for over two hours at the multiplex. Which is to say, surprisingly, sometimes delightfully well — even if you have no clue what a paladin or Red Wizard or Harper is, or if the term "Dungeon Master" sends

your mind straight to "Fifty Shades of Grey."

The most obvious reason for this success, besides fleet-footed direction by Jonathan Goldstein and John Francis Daley, is star Chris Pine, whose sunny charisma and smooth knack for comedy, plus an ability to seem like he's both inside the movie and outside looking in, keeps everything bubbling.

He's ably assisted by Rodriguez, plus young accomplices Justice Smith as a confidence-challenged (but sweet) wizard and Sophia Lillis as a shape-shifting druid. And then we have a graying Hugh Grant, playing the heck out of yet another comic villain role — a character almost as curmudgeonly as he was on the Oscar red carpet.

Plus there's a cameo from another big star, but more on that in a minute. Because first we have to mention the pudgy dragon. Yes, pudgy. Whatever dragons eat, and we can only try to imagine, he's had too many.

But back to Pine, aka the bard Edgin, whom we first meet in a dank, freezing prison cell. He's — well, he's knitting. Nearby sits Holga (Rodriguez), and her own hobby is eating. She's not a cordial

sort, especially when food supply is at risk.

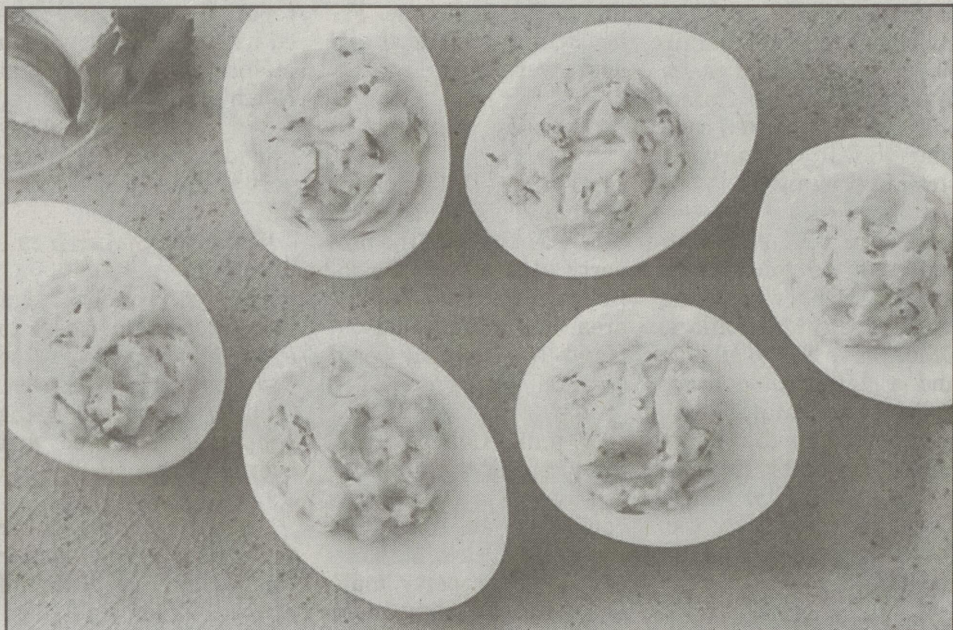
An appearance in front of a judicial council, begging for a pardon, gives Edgin the chance to tell his backstory. Turns out he wasn't always a criminal; he was a Harper, part of a spy guild acting for the greater good, but he attracted the ire of the Red Wizards of Thay, which led to the tragic murder of his wife.

Teaming with Holga, he sets out to find the magical Tablet of Reawakening that would return his wife to him and especially their baby daughter Kira (played by Chloe Coleman as a youngster). But they get captured, and their accomplice Forge (Grant), who somehow escapes, swears to take care of Kira.

Edgin, a master planner, devises a jailbreak right during the pardon hearing. They discover Kira is now living in a walled city with Forge, a con-man who turns out (gasp!) to have planned the whole thing, and has convinced her that Dad betrayed her for riches. And now he's allied with Sofina, a terrifying sorceress (Daisy Head). Forge not only refuses to give Kira back but sends Edgin and Holga to their deaths.

HomeNewsHere RECIPE

PARSLEY DEVILED EGGS



INCREDIBLE EGGS - It's everyone's favorite appetizer with a fresh parsley twist! Whip up a batch anytime you crave a cool, creamy snack.

STEPS

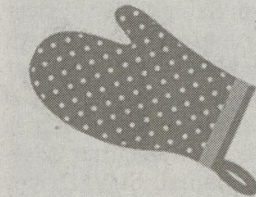
1. Cut eggs lengthwise in half. Slip out yolks and mash with fork. Mix remaining ingredients into yolks.

2. Fill whites with egg yolk mixture, heaping it lightly. Arrange eggs on large serving plate. Cover and refrigerate up to 24 hours.

EXPERT TIPS

• Garnish deviled eggs with red caviar and parsley, or top with thin slices of red pearl onions.

• Cut a very thin slice off the bottom of each egg



white before filling to help the eggs stay in place on the serving plate.

• For an interesting elegant look, cut eggs in half with a waffle-fry cutter.

NUTRITION

125 Calories
11 g Total Fat
6 g Protein
1 g Total Carbohydrate

Ingredients

- 8 hard-cooked eggs, peeled
- 1/4 cup mayonnaise or salad dressing
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley
- 1/2 teaspoon ground mustard
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper

Holga, however, quickly dispatches all the soldiers meant to kill them — all while Edgin tries, and fails, to untie a rope.

Now they need that tablet, but first they need a magical helmet (bear with us.) The quest, upon which they're joined by Simon (Smith) and Doric (Lillis), leads to the film's most entertaining scenes. One of these is an impressive, fast-paced sequence where shape-shifter Doric infiltrates enemy lines and then, chased by Sofina, morphs seamlessly into various animal forms and back to herself again.

Another is a comic bit where Pine's Edgin tries to elicit key information from a series of corpses. Summoned to life by an in-

creasingly effective Simon, each corpse can answer five questions before returning to the grave forever. Edgin keeps wasting his chances with questions like "Did that count as a question?"

And a prime comic moment comes from none other than Bradley Cooper (see, worth the wait!). We'll reveal nothing but the observation that this cameo is small, but packs a punch.

Finally we have Xenk (Page), perfectly cast as a paladin so, well, perfect that he delivers babies in between vanquishing enemies, and provides the crucial help Edgin needs. But for all sorts of reasons, Edgin can't bring himself to like the guy. Most of all,

he can't deal with his lack of understanding of irony, sarcasm, and especially humor.

He's probably right. Heroism is all well and good, but humor is crucial. That's a lesson this film has, luckily, already figured out.

"Dungeons & Dragons: Honor Among Thieves," a Paramount Pictures release, has been rated PG-13 by the Motion Picture Association of America "for fantasy action/violence and some language." Running time: 134 minutes. Two and a half stars out of four.

MPAA definition of PG-13: Parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

Park FROM A-8

construction of a new restroom/storage facility and picnicking area, and the installation of lighting and new walking trails that will connect Birch Meadow Drive to the baseball diamond at Morton Field and a polyturf athletic space by Reading Memorial High School (RMHS).

A grand vision

The Birch Meadow Park improvements will be the first part of a three-phased overhaul that aims to tie together a sprawling network of conservation areas, playgrounds, and athletic spaces that sit just northwest of Reading Center between Main Street and Route 129.

The genesis of the project dates back to 2007, when a special Select Board advisory committee was formed to create a master plan for the series of parks, which abut a myriad of recreational and educational landmarks that include the Burbank YMCA, the Higgins Conservation area, RMHS's Field House and polyturf athletic fields, and Coolidge Middle School.

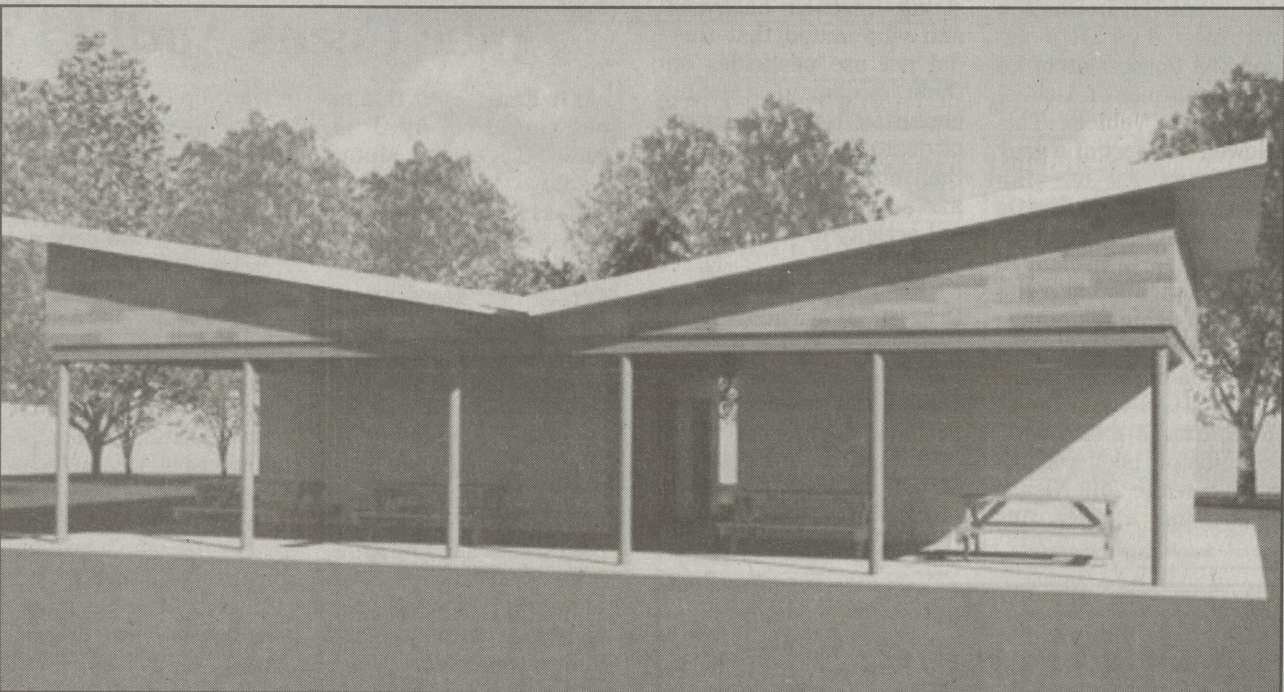
With original capital funding requests for that 2007 vision shelved back in 2014, Reading's Recreation Committee took another stab at revising the master plan four years later by creating a second working group to solicit feedback from town residents and other stakeholders. Then in 2020, the town hired Needham-based consulting firm Activitas Inc. to create official project plans that incorporated that public input.

By the spring of 2021, architects for the consulting firm unveiled the current three-phased proposal, which based upon initial budget forecasts would cost between \$10 to \$17 million to implement.

With those plans in hand, the Recreation Committee and project proponents like Fiorente - who has since been promoted to Reading's community services director position - about a year later began lobbying the Select Board and a special ARPA advisory committee for a slice of Reading's COVID-19 bailout money.

According to the town manager, with the original \$1.5 million budget based off of a spring of 2022 estimate, he had anticipated the final price tag would come in higher than first projected. However, even Maltez was caught off-guard by the \$2.887 million low bids for the work.

"We certainly did not expect it to be this high," the town



SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING NEEDED - Town officials will ask Town Meeting members in May to reallocate roughly \$1.2 million in funding for Phase One of the Birch Meadow Park improvement project. Above, a rendering prepared by the town shows a restroom and storage facility proposed for the recreational area. (Courtesy Image)

manager admitted during a Town Hall discussion about the project in early March. "These numbers are insane, and we were also blown away [by the bids that came in]."

Though the Town Hall CEO last month pitched two alternative options that would break the first-phase improvements would be into two smaller components, Maltez has since joined with the town's Recreation and Finance Committees to recommend funding the full project scope through a supplemental appropriation of \$1.2 million.

"We heard that Birch Meadow has been a community priority for over 10 years. We also know that construction prices are not likely to go down soon, and the Town would gain economies of scale by completing the entire project at once. Finally, this project is shovel-ready and would be built this coming construction season," the town manager reasoned in a March 16 memo to the Select Board.

Future phases of the Birch Meadow improvement plan propose the construction of an upgraded children's playground, eight new eight new pickleball courts, and two new outdoor basketball courts by Bancroft Avenue and the RMHS' Rise Preschool parking area. A new multi-purpose field for lacrosse, soccer, and softball games is also proposed for park land situated behind the Coolidge Middle School.

A second walking "spine", consisting of another lighted eight-to-ten foot wide walking trail, would also be constructed to connect distant parking areas to all of the site's field and passive recreational sites.

Presently, Reading's long-term capital budget includes a \$2.5 million line-item for FY'25 that would cover Phase 2 of the project.



Tewksbury Police Log

Police make arrest on warrant out of Newburyport

Monday, March 27

1:58 a.m. - Police out with a motor vehicle at Ames Hill Drive. Meritel Saintil, 40, of 335 Rimmon St. in Manchester, New Hampshire, was arrested and charged with Newburyport straight warrant.

9:30 a.m. - A 911 caller reported he picked up a male who was being chased at Whittemore. Other party was in all blue and a half a mile away. Police sent. Male party transported by the ambulance to Saints Hospital for altered mental status. The other male party was the stepson. Officer filed a report.

11:22 a.m. - A 911 caller reported retail theft at Home Depot was described as a white male in his mid-30s, wearing a black mask on his head, and running toward Motel 6. Police sent. The male left in a white vehicle. Officer filed a report.

10:17 p.m. - Caller reported she has internal camera in her mother's house who passed away at Maplewood. She received a mo-

tion alert and saw someone standing at the back door with a flashlight looking inside the home. Police sent. All windows and doors were secure.

Tuesday, March 28

1:45 a.m. - TV monitor company stated a white SUV was taken off the property at Atamian Honda. Police sent. Cars checked area, but nothing unusual found. The company would be emailing footage.

9:47 a.m. - Caller requested to speak to an officer regarding a suspicious container at Archstone Avenue. Police sent. They confirmed property management was going to be removing that container.

4:12 p.m. - Caller reported unknown male rang her doorbell at Yorkshire Drive. She did not answer and reported he then went on to knock on doors other homes. Caller reported the male was driving a white vehicle either a sedan or small SUV. Driver was a white male wearing a black hat and jeans. The person was a real estate agent from Coldwell Ban-

ker.

8:27 p.m. - A 911 caller reported a female screamed with a male party on a motorcycle next to her at North Street and Andover Street. Police sent. They provided a courtesy transport to Ames Hill Drive.

Wednesday, March 29

2:35 p.m. - Police sent into the station to speak to a resident about a noise complaint at South Street. Advice was given to the people in Andover just over the line.

3:09 p.m. - A 911 caller reported a female worker was yelling at Marshall Street. Female staff worker reported she was on the phone with her brother. Police sent. Officers spoke to party. She was talking loudly on the telephone and no crime nor domestic incident occurred.

7:48 p.m. - Police sent and went to speak with a possible party involved in an incident at Livingston Street Park. The mother said he was not home at this time and she would have him contact police.

Officer filed a report. A 911 caller reported someone threw an item at his windshield shattering it. Caller reported he saw a white and dark colored Honda Civic at the time last seen heading toward the country club. No injuries reported at this time. Vehicle was across from the softball field.

9 p.m. - A motorist drove by Boutiette's Auto Body reported the place closed but the back door was open. Police sent. They did a walk-through but nothing was found. They were able to secure the garage door.

Thursday, March 30

4:05 a.m. - Caller reported a strange noise coming from her bathroom at Lloyd Road. Police sent. A bathroom fan and electric razor were causing the noises.

2:35 p.m. - Caller reported a Toyota van parked in front of his house for about an hour at Birdie Lane. Police sent. Officer spoke with the party; she was home health aid who was early for her appointment.

4:04 p.m. - Caller reported a past assault between residents at Blaire House. Police sent and officer filed a report.

7:58 p.m. - A 911 caller stated her 10-year old never came home from softball practice at the Livingston Street field. She was supposed to be at Kensington Way. She was described as a white female, four feet tall with strawberry blond hair. Police sent. Juvenile walked home and returned while on the phone. Officer spoke to the party. Miscommunication about picking up between parents. Child was home safe.

Friday, March 31

5:08 p.m. - Female party went into the woods on the post office side, holding bags at Tricia's Dance Studio. Male party pulled up in a Chevy pickup, dark gray, and was just hanging out in the area. Caller was concerned because of the kids that go to the studio. Police sent. Party in the vehicle was a dog walker and checked out. Police spoke to female and she was OK. They offered her front line service.

8:14 p.m. - Caller reported male rang doorbells and knocked on doors at Marion Drive. Caller reported the male was driving a dark colored SUV.

Police checked the area and reported gone on arrival.

10:05 p.m. - Caller reported a motor vehicle swerving and almost hitting the curb multiple times at Jon Ryan's Pub. Police sent. They located the vehicle and spoke with the operator. No impairment.

Saturday, April 1

2:05 a.m. - Caller reported the Algonquin Drive was having a party and the music was too loud. Police sent. All units would be clear. The music would be turned off for the night.

1:10 p.m. - Police sent to Cumberland Farms. They spoke with the caller who stated there were no threats made. The male was upset about their policy and left the area. A 911 caller reported irate customer. Customer got upset because they do not accept out of country ID's.

Sunday, April 2

4:18 p.m. - Caller reported a purple house which has been vacant at Shawshen Street for a couple of years and boarded up and noticed the door wide open. Police sent. They reported the door leads to a porch area, appeared to be an oversight.



Wilmington Police Log

Chelsea resident arrested for OUI - Liquor

Friday, March 24:

8:01 a.m.: A motor vehicle collision occurred on Main Street between a gray 2008 Kia Rondo and a blue 2008 Lexus ES350. The fire department responded and transported one individual, while both vehicles were towed away.

5:31 p.m.: A caller at Town Hall on Glen Road reported that while parked there between 4:30 and 5 p.m., \$50 and their debit card were stolen from their blue 2012 Hyundai Santa Fe. The vehicle was locked, although a rear window had been left open.

5:37 p.m.: The manager at Dollar Tree on Main Street reported that a group of juveniles were in the store and creating a ruckus. Police sent the youths on their way.

Saturday, March 25:

12:22 a.m.: Star Menard-Owens of 786 Broadway, Apartment #2R in Chelsea was arrested for OUI - Liquor and Possession of an Open Container of Alcohol in a Motor Vehicle. This followed a report of a gray 2015 Honda Fit on Middlesex Avenue and Mystic Avenue that had been baring music for a prolonged period. Police found a flat tire and vehicle damage when they arrived. The party was bailed.

10:47 a.m.: A motor vehicle collision occurred between a white 2018 Nissan Sentra and a gray 2014

Toyota Camry on Main Street, with no airbag deployment. One party complained of neck pain and was transported by the fire department. A friend of the party took the vehicle home.

5:53 p.m.: An injured skunk was reported in the area of Hillcrest Street and Burt Road. However, when the Animal Control officer arrived, the animal was moving about and was declared to be fine for the time being.

Sunday, March 26:

8:16 a.m.: Staff at Dunkin' Donuts on Main Street reported that two customers were engaged in an argument over a service dog. The parties involved left before police arrived in a gray 2015 Toyota Tundra and a black 2022 Toyota Highlander.

8:32 a.m.: A caller on Lorin Drive reported that there were two dead skunks in their backyard and who stated that they did not use pesticides on their property, causing confusion over the cause of death. Police contacted the Animal Control officer and saw no signs of criminal activity at the scene.

1:18 p.m.: Bianca Lee Cruz of 724 Varnum Dr. in Lowell was issued a summons for Larceny Under \$1,200. This followed a report by Loss Prevention at Target on Ballardvale Street after a large amount of alcohol was lost the previous day. Target

offered store surveillance footage for police to use.

Monday, March 27:

2:09 a.m.: Police on Lowell Street requested the fire department and building inspector to check the stability of a nearby building. The inspector promised to come in the morning and any attempts to contact the building owner were unsuccessful, while no damaged vehicles were found in the area. Reading Light disconnected power from the building.

10:40 p.m.: A single-car motor vehicle collision occurred prior to Exit 33 on I-93 Northbound Highway with unknown injuries. When police arrived, the party reported neck and collarbone pain following airbag deployment. An officer remain-

ed onscene until state police took over the incident.

Tuesday, March 28:

11:56 a.m.: A party on Woburn Street reported that she believed that her ex-husband had someone watching their home.

12:35 p.m.: A resident on Allenhurst Way reported that a dispute was occurring with their neighbor over work being done at the caller's residence. The neighbor was reported as yelling and harassing town employees that were onscene, such as the engineer and conservation department. Police spoke to the parties and found the dispute was over objections to a driveway being redone.

7:07 p.m.: A walk-in party reported that their

white 1995 Ford Styles had been reported as stolen by a previous owner, despite the party having purchased the vehicle over a year prior. The matter was handed to Brockton Police to resolve.

Wednesday, March 29:

3:15 p.m.: A caller at the Knights of Columbus on Middlesex Avenue reported a disturbance and requested that a party be removed from their property. Police arrived on the scene and discovered the conflict was between a patron and the bartender, but that the party had already left the area.

5:10 p.m.: A motor vehicle collision occurred on Butters Row and Main Street between a white 1991 Chevy Blazer, brown 2016 Honda CR-V, and a red 2017 Kia Niro. Two of the vehicles were towed.

6:07 p.m.: A walk-in party reported that their bike had been stolen from the High School on Church Street earlier that day.

Thursday, March 30:

5:50 a.m.: A caller on Upton Drive reported that a red 2022 Dodge 1500 was brake checking them and driving slowly as they headed into work. The other driver then turned around and pulled up next to the caller, taking photos of their car. Police searched the area for the other vehicle, finding the operator at 6:25 a.m. at the Institute for Environmental Education on Upton Drive. The operator reported that they were not brake checking the caller, but were merely unfamiliar with the area and that the photos were taken because damage was thought to have been caused

10:57 p.m.: Michael J. Donahue of 5131 Evergreen Dr. was arrested for Assault and Battery on a Police Officer and Bryan Christopher Smith of 5131 Evergreen Dr. was arrested for OUI - Liquor, Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, and Disrupting the Peace.

Gov. Healey to keynote UMass Lowell Chancellor Julie Chen's April 13 inauguration ceremony

LOWELL — At 11 a.m. on Thursday, April 13, 2023, Governor Maura Healey will keynote UMass Lowell Chancellor Julie Chen's inauguration ceremony at the Tsongas Center at UMass Lowell (300 Arcand Dr., Lowell). Throughout her first nine months as chancellor, Chen, a Wilmington resident, has repeatedly emphasized the power of partnerships and the priority UMass Lowell places on creating and growing relationships with industry, nonprofits, government agencies and fellow universities.

"It's through these collaborative partnerships that we develop new and unique opportunities for our students, for our faculty and researchers and, ultimately, for our graduates," said Chen, who has emphasized the importance of paid career-connected experiences. "Lowell's future is bright because UMass Lowell is working hand-in-hand with organizations throughout our community to create it."

A mechanical engineering professor and recognized leader in research, STEM and economic development in higher education, Chen is UMass Lowell's first Asian-Am-

erican, first LGBTQ+ and second woman chancellor.

One of UMass Lowell's most prominent partners, Gov. Maura T. Healey, will give the ceremony's keynote address.

"I'm honored to have the opportunity to deliver the keynote address at Chancellor Julie Chen's inaugural ceremony and to recognize her incredible contributions to UMass Lowell," Healey said. "She is a dynamic, collaborative leader who is driving success for students, faculty and our entire state."

In addition to remarks from UMass Lowell students, community and elected officials, and UMass System leaders, the ceremony will feature the rich and diverse culture of Lowell and its public research university.

On the evening before the inauguration ceremony, Chen will host a UMass Lowell Community Celebration to raise money for an endowed fund to support student success.

Key successes in year one

As Chen's first academic year winds down, key examples of increased momentum have been laying the groundwork for the university's future:



- In October, Chen welcomed UMass Lowell alumnus and Android co-founder Rich Miner '86, '89, '97 to campus as the university celebrated Miner's \$5 million donation and established the Richard A. Miner School of Computer & Information Sciences.

- Final total research expenditures — nearly \$95 million last year — are expected to top \$100 million as the university continues its pursuit of Research 1 status, designating UMass Lowell among the nation's top-tier research universities.

- The university's nationally recognized River Hawk Scholars Academy — supporting first-generation college students who are fundamental to UMass Lowell's identity and mission — continued its growth thanks to the leadership of Congresswoman Lori Trahan and Sen. Ed Markey.

And perhaps most importantly, UMass Lowell is finalizing the development of a new strategic plan to guide the university's focus as it builds upon the transformational foundation created during the last 15 years.

The plan identifies goals and metrics around:

- Enrollment and Student Success
- A Diverse, Welcoming and Inclusive Campus
- Research Excellence
- Partnering with our Community for Mutual Benefit

About UMass Lowell

UMass Lowell is a national research university located on a high-energy campus in the heart of a global community. The university offers its students bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in business, education, engineering, fine arts, health, humanities, sciences and social sciences.

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Wildwood School project moving forward, meeting held with MSBA design team

BOS FROM PAGE 1

from grant administration and contact tracing to purchase a playground to be put at the middle school; and \$300,000 allocated for façade and streetscape improvements to be spent.

O'Connell asked if there were any concerns about meeting the deadline for the money to be obligated. Hull replied that he didn't have any concerns that the town could obligate the money ahead of the deadline.

School Superintendent Dr. Glenn Brand sent two memos regarding the MSBA project for the new Wildwood School and the interim Wildwood project at the middle school. He described a meeting with the MSBA designer selection panel where the town suggested two firms for interviews, and MSBA followed this input.

Hull confirmed that they recommended not bringing the third firm for interviews. Brand's other memo said that the work to be done at the middle school — converting an office space into girls' and boys' restroom for Wildwood students — would

be completed over 10 weeks during the summer and hopefully be finished by early September.

Assistant Town Manager Susan Inman wrote regarding the transition plan for the library director as they search for a replacement for Christina Stewart. This involves posting the job opportunity in April, reviewing applications and conducting interviews in June, providing a recommendation in July, and hopefully bringing the candidate on board in September.

Director of Planning and Conservation Valerie Gingrich informed the board via memo that the town's subsidized housing inventory hit the 10 percent mark as of the comprehensive permit filed for 100 West St. adding 132 units to total 891. Before that, 79 Nichols St. was able to submit to the Zoning Board of Appeals and will be allowed to go through review, but Princeton Properties and Jefferson Road won't be able to do the same.

Recreation Director Brett Sawin notified the board of various summer programs such as

the Playground Program, Toys for Tots, Kids Club, and the opening of Town Beach for the summer. He mentioned that the town would reimburse any potential lifeguards needing training if they go through the class at the Shawsheen Tech.

They approved requests to conduct the Memorial Day Parade on May 29 at 10 a.m., to hold car washes on behalf of WHS Boys Lacrosse Booster Club on May 28 and the WHS Football Touchdown Club on June 11, and the use of the Swain Green for various WML programs. They also approved the signing of the license for the Wilmington Farmers Market.

Under announcements, O'Connell mentioned the recent Eagle Scout project reveal success. She also noted that the Wilmington Little League Opening Day Parade would be on April 22.

The Salute to Service went out to Eileen Jordan for her service in the US Air Force and receipt of several medals.

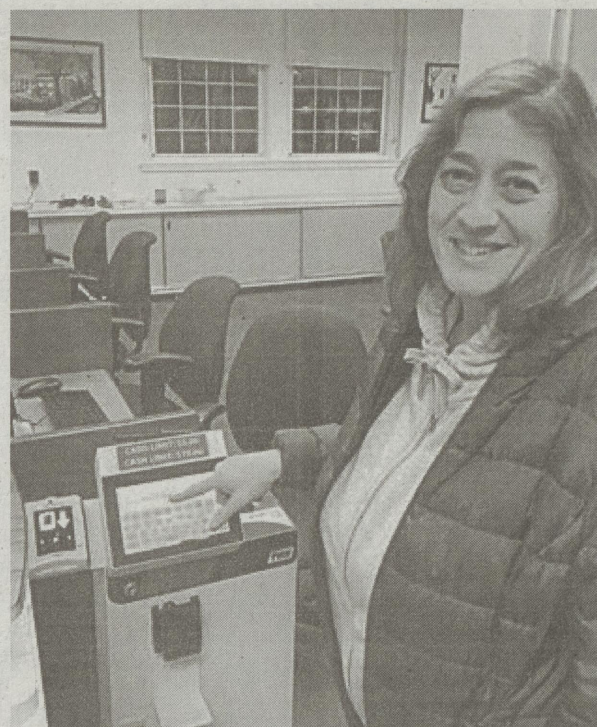
The next meeting will be on April 24 at 7 p.m.



▲ Do you love to cook? Register for Cookin' the Books! In this monthly program you can pick a recipe from a designated cookbook, make it, and bring it in to the library to share with others who have also prepared their own recipes.

Always something going on at the library

► Need to print or make copies? The library now has a new coinbox that is compatible with credit/debit cards, Apple Pay, and cash/coins. (Courtesy photos)



After much debate, Columbus Day to remain on school calendar

COLUMBUS FROM PAGE 1

"He is a problematic person to glorify," he continued, attesting to the research that he did on top of the knowledge he had already on the subject.

Instead of celebrating Columbus, he said he'd want to celebrate Italian culture more broadly with the holiday.

Jay Samaha reflected upon his previous opinion due to residents saying

that they were being discriminated against.

"I do not want to take an action against inclusivity. I want to have a culture that's including everybody and not pitting one culture against another," he said.

Jesse Fennelly proposed that they leave the calendar with Columbus Day listed as it is, since it's both a state and a federal holiday, without adding or taking away anything.

David Ragsdale reiterated

ed his previous opinion that they take away the names of all the holidays and just list "Holiday/No School."

Bryson made a motion to take no action and leave Columbus Day and all other named holidays as they are currently listed. The vote to support the motion passed 5-2.

However, the calendar in full vote still remains to be taken up at their next meeting on April 12.



GENERAL HELP



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The Town of Winchester seeks a qualified candidate for a Special Equipment Operator position available at the Department of Public Works in the Maintenance department. This is a union position under the Service Employees International Union (SEIU Local 898). Complete job description is available online at www.winchester.us. Qualified applicants must possess a CDL with Airbrake Endorsement and a 2A Hydraulic License. Salary range is \$26.04/hr. - \$30.41/hr.

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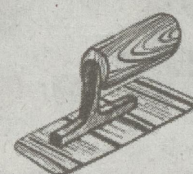
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Variety of classes for Woburn students...

Kennedy Middle School begins after-school activities program

WOBURN - Principal Carl Nelson is pleased to announce that Kennedy Middle School has started an after-school program for students.

The after-school program recently began and is available to all Kennedy Middle School students. The program offers a variety of activities including cooking, chess, bracelet-making, guitar/ukelele lessons, robotics, and soccer.

Teachers and students developed the programs based on their personal inter-

ests, and students had the opportunity to sign up online to take part. Approximately 75 students have joined the various groups. The groups will meet regularly for a total of six weeks.

"It's great to see our teachers and students working together to pursue their common interests, and students have really enjoyed the work they've done with their respective groups so far," Principal Nelson said.



ROBOT REVOLUTION - Students Josh Prestia, Luke Hagopian and Anthony Puopoloin take part in the robotics program that launched recently at Kennedy Middle School in Woburn. (Courtesy Photo Woburn Public Schools)

• Real Estate Transfers •

BURLINGTON

17 Maryvale Rd was sold to Kim, Ok S and Kim, Han T by Iris J Clayfield Irt and Clayfield, Jonathan C for \$640,000 on 03/17/23

88 Muller Rd was sold to Rodriguez, Julio W by Viglione, Ottavio and Viglione, Giacinda for \$830,000 on 03/13/23

19 Susan Ave was sold to Wirtanen, Justine by Thevaruban, Indusha for \$687,000 on 03/15/23

LYNNFIELD

271 Main St was sold to Zepaj Development LLC by Hickman, Audrey for \$1,162,500 on 03/16/23

NORTH READING

3 Arline Dr was sold to Bovard, Pooja and Bovard, Brendan by W M Tarkulich 2012 RET and Tarkulich, William M for \$1,175,000 on 03/13/23

22 Burditt Rd was sold to Jmrenda Holdings LLC by Cote, Paul E and Cote, Rosemarie for \$425,000 on 03/13/23

READING

80 John Carver Rd was sold to Wilson, Samuel by Miller-Sullivan, Suzanne and Miller, Paul A for \$794,000 on 03/15/23

12 Lakeview Ave was sold to Lecanda, Gustavo and Parchment, Rebecca by Zanni New Reading Nt and Zanni, Edward J for \$540,000 on 03/16/23

STONEHAM

110 Fellsview Ter #116 was sold to Galatis, George by Foley, Julie L for \$385,000 on 03/16/23

33 Morrison Ave was sold to De Vlaam, Thomas and Cummings, Caroline by Piechowiak-Digiorgio, Ga for \$1,100,000 on 03/17/23

TEWKSBURY

26 Apache Way #26 was sold to Aliyev, Ilgar by Ducey, Robert A for \$390,000 on 03/14/23

1326 Emerald Ct #1326 was sold to Rad Rt and Ducey, Robert A by Joanne Dolan T and Dolan, Joanne for \$397,500 on 03/15/23

33 Heath St was sold to Decandia Prop Invs LLC by Rp RET and Pierce, Shauna for \$365,000 on 03/17/23

61 Martha Ave was sold to Trant, Kevin B by Nawn Thomas L Est and Conrad, Kathleen E for \$565,000 on 03/14/23

219 River Rd was sold to Narahara, Andrew and Narahara, Stephanie by Falco, Luigi for \$780,000 on 03/14/23

838 Shawsheen St was sold to Mangano, John R and Oneill, John by Lane, Kathleen A for \$225,000 on 03/16/23

1235 South St was sold to Tammaro, Jillian and Tammaro, Regina B by Tammaro Anthony M Est and Tammaro, Regina B for \$407,000 on 03/14/23

1 Temple St was sold to Laffey, Michael J by Laffey 2019 T and Laffey, John F for \$400,000 on 03/13/23

115 Terramor Dr was sold to Yamajala,

Prashant and Yamajala, Shailja K by Amg Development LLC for \$1,090,000 on 03/16/23

WAKEFIELD

69 Foundry St #413 was sold to Knight, Dolores and Dimartino, Rita by Foundry Development LLC for \$495,000 on 03/15/23

13 Scott Ln was sold to 13 Scott Lane Rt and Sanford-O'Brien, Dale J by Dipietro Jr, Paul C and Dipietro, Shannon for \$700,000 on 03/15/23

356 Vernon St was sold to Deangelis, David and Sordillo, Frances M by J&D RT and Sanford-O'Brien, Dale J for \$950,000 on 03/15/23

WILMINGTON

24 Green Meadow Dr was sold to Yang, Huan and Chen, Xixiang by Northeastern Dev Corp for \$1,250,000 on 03/14/23

20 Gunderson Rd was sold to Smith, Michael D and Smith, Caitlin F by McDonough, Mary F and McDonough, Robert T for \$500,000 on 03/16/23

30 Houghton Rd was sold to Costigan, Christopher R and Costigan, Susan by Jr & Rj LLC for \$1,328,500 on 03/13/23

WINCHESTER

27 Amberwood Dr was sold to London, Scott E and Wexler, Jill C by Anita Mackay RET and Oreilly, Elaine M for \$1,490,000 on 03/13/23

17 Cross St was sold to Bolian, Zachary and Resnevic, Kathryn by Mangano, Debo-

rah M for \$1,050,000 on 03/15/23

25 Englewood Rd was sold to 25 Englewood Rt and Testa, Britni by Araujo, Diana E and Deutsche Bk Natl TCo for \$745,300 on 03/14/23

10 Kendall St was sold to Pieri, Dane and Pieri, Lisa by Morreale, Michael and Morreale, Brittany for \$1,200,000 on 03/15/23

WOBURN

28 Ferullo Dr was sold to Che, May and Xiong, Jim by Shannon Farm Estates LLC for \$1,625,000 on 03/16/23

17 Independence Dr was sold to Kracunas, Patrick E and Kwak, Hanna by Ruth H Taylor Lt and Taylor, Phillip M for \$860,000 on 03/14/23

11 Karen Rd was sold to Huard, Bethany S and Salvatore, Anthony C by Cialdea, Bruce M and Cialdea, Frederick C for \$1,200,000 on 03/17/23

11 Mishawum Rd was sold to Salem St Consortium LLC by Newport Realty Dev LLC for \$605,000 on 03/16/23

340 Place Ln #340 was sold to Conte, Robert T by Robin V Brown Lt and Brown, Robert V for \$435,000 on 03/13/23

13 Sturgis St #1 was sold to Bates, Casey and Garrity, Kelly E by Macdonald T and Macdonald, Randy J for \$670,000 on 03/15/23

13 Sturgis St #3 was sold to Ruvich, Caleb and Schario, Emily by Macdonald T and Macdonald, Randy J for \$631,000 on 03/16/23

6 Willow St #1 was sold to Kagimu, Dorah by Pappas, Barbara F for \$530,000 on 03/14/23

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WHS Girls Track Preview

Reigning Division 4 State Champs ready to track down more wins

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

jamiapote@hotmail.com
WILMINGTON - The 2022 spring season was one to certainly remember for the Wilmington High School Girls' Outdoor Track-and-Field team. The Wildcats captured their first ever state championship title, by the slimmest of margins and had a elite group of athletes, who all performed at their best when it mattered the most.

Heading into this season, the team will be without a large handful of those athletes, who have since gone on to compete at the collegiate level including reigning state champions Celia Kulis (Holy Cross) and Sarah LaVita (University of New England), but head coach Joe Patrone says there's enough left in the tank to get from Point A to Point B and so on.

"We lost a lot of talent to graduation from the team that won the Division 4 State Meet last spring. We still have some talented athletes and there are some new girls that have come out that have excellent work ethic and look like they will be able to contribute to the team," he said.

Starting with the sprints, the team will be led by captain Molly



The WHS Girls Outdoor Track and Field team will be led by its four captains, from left, Molly MacDonald, Mallory Brown, Kayla Flynn and Emily Grace. (photo by Eric Canha).

MacDonald, junior Ali Doherty and several newcomers, Abigail Howie and Lily McLaughlin, both freshmen. Last year Doherty was 15th at the Division 4 state meet in the 100-meters in 13.24 seconds.

In the middle distance events, both Emily Grace and Alexis Melvin are terrific all-around athletes and will look to lead the way, while freshman Maeve White should be in the mix. Grace was 13th

at the D4 Meet in the 400 last year coming in at 1:04.12, while, Melvin is extremely versatile with sprints/relays/jumps/pole vault.

Melvin and White will also see time in the 400-meter hurdles, while, junior Mollie Osgood and freshman Emma Callahan seem to be the frontrunners in the 100-meter hurdles.

The distance and the jumping events, are two events the Wildcats

should be strong in and also have depth. Starting with the distance crew, it'll consist of sophomore Addy Hunt, senior captain Mallory Brown and junior Hannah Bryson. Hunt finished 11th at the D4 state meet in the 800 a year ago with a time of 2:27.42 and will also be a big part of the relay team. Brown is extremely consistent in her distance events and adds depth to the relay teams, and Bryson is coming off an All-Conference

cross-country season.

In the jumping events, it starts with Osgood, who last year as a sophomore was a state champion in the high jump as she cleared 5-2.

"Mollie is coming off an excellent indoor season where she set the school record of 5' 05" and placed fourth in the Rising Stars portion of the New Balance Nationals," said Patrone. "She will also compete in the long jump (and the hurdles). She will be joined in the jumping events by freshmen Emma Callahan and Maeve White who have shown potential in the triple jump."

In the throwing events, sophomore Maddie Krueger is coming off a real strong freshman season and she is competitive in all three events, the shot put, discus and javelin. MacDonald was fifth at the state meet in the javelin throwing 97-07. Adding depth there is junior Ali Ganley, a talented athlete who also excels in soccer and gymnastics.

"She sprinted for us last year but was injured during gymnastics, so is focusing on the throwing events," said Patrone.

Also senior Kayla Flynn is also a strong all-around athlete, who will see time in a number of different running/jumping events.

Adding depth to the team includes juniors Christina Chesbrough, Emily Doherty, Anna Jancsics, Ava Kennedy, Sofia Pitzen and Mia Stryhalaleck, sophomores Vivian DeBlois and Gabby Fitzgibbons, as well as freshmen Audra Blais, Alison Boutoures, Isabella Cooper, Samantha Glaser, Annika Held, Cayley Israelson, Lillian King, Alivia Quintero, Kaitlyn Shackelford and Isabella Zaya.

"As a team, we are in a rebuilding mode with a lot of new faces. We have 33 girls on the team, 14 of whom are freshman. Indoors the Middlesex League Freedom Division teams were much improved so we could be anywhere from 0-5 to 5-0," said Patrone. "Our hope is just to be competitive in our meets, improve our individual performances and get as many girls as possible to qualify for the state meet. Our strengths are probable in the running events and the field events could be a weakness as we have many of the new girls stepping into those spots."

Wilmington opens its season on Thursday against Watertown but at Reading High School starting at 4 pm.

WHS Baseball Preview

Behind strong pitching, Wildcats hoping to compete

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

jamiapote@hotmail.com
WILMINGTON - A year ago, the Wilmington High School Varsity Baseball team made a terrific second-half push, enough so that the team qualified for the Division 2 statewide tournament. Led by pitcher Joe Dynan, and the athleticism of Jacob Roque -- who provided great sparks with his bat, speed and glove -- the Wildcats finished the regular season with a 10-10 record, before losing to Pittsfield in the first round of the playoffs.

Since then Dynan, as well as a few other players have graduated, and although Roque is back, he's on the injured list for a bit recovering from a shoulder injury he suffered during the Thanksgiving Day Football game. Now without the team's ace pitcher, and lead-off hitter, first-year head coach Matt McManus inherits a team that still has some solid arms, but has some holes to fill.

"We should be solid on the mound. We've had two scrimmages so far (against Weymouth and Whittier Tech) and we've had two solid outings by both Ayden Balter and Austin Harper. Both of those guys looked good," said McManus. "We're going to have to keep the runs off the board and play solid defense. We haven't been hitting that strong just yet. We have a couple of guys who have been making some pretty good contact, but overall I think we're going to have to be a pitching and defense kind of team if we're going to be successful."

"One of the big problems is our captain Jacob Roque is out injured. He would probably be our ace pitcher right now. My initial read on most high school programs is both Harper and Balter would have the potential to be a number one on most high school teams so I think

we're deep there. Once Jacob comes healthy which hopefully will be in the next month or so, I think we will be very solid (on the mound)."

Without Roque, McManus has a long list of pitchers to choose from, but it starts with junior Harper and sophomore Balter, while, senior Patrick Stokes and junior Burke Zimmer, among others will be in the mix.

"I told those (starting pitchers) that I'm going to look to ride you guys," said McManus. "(I said) you're not going to get a quick hook from me unless it's a special situation or late in the season or lefty on lefty kind of thing. (I said) I'm looking for you guys to get me through the line-up at least twice, if not three times and that means pitching them deep into the fifth and sixth innings, and hopefully into the seventh innings."

"There's a couple of guys who will be coming behind (Harper, Balter and Roque) like Burke Zimmer. He's a lefty and I like him from that left-handed side. Patrick Stokes can give me a couple of innings. Noah Spencer could give me an inning or two."

"We also have a promising freshman Nolan Richards. I pitched him in our second scrimmage and that was his first varsity action. He (struggled with his command) but overall I liked what I saw and just encouraged him to go out there and throw the ball. He's going to be a floating guy where I want him to get some innings on the JV team, but I could envision a scenario where as the season progresses, if he's successful like I think he will be at the JV level, that we keep him up at Varsity and he becomes a key guy coming out of the bullpen for us."

The pitching staff will be throwing to senior Michael Monteforte, who has already committed to play next year at Eastern

Nazarene College. Last year as a junior, he was a back-up catcher who got a few starts, but also played some second base. McManus really likes what he sees so far from Monteforte, who will take over as the team's lead-off hitter.

"I made a coach's decision and elevated him as our third captain. Before I came here, the kids had already voted on captains and they named Jacob Roque and Patrick Stokes as the co-captains," explained McManus.

"Quite honestly from what I have been seeing since day one out of Monteforte, and him being a catcher I expect a lot of leadership out of that position anyway, he's been great. I touched base with the other coaches and told them what I was thinking and then I talked to the two captains and wanted to get their take on it and that it wouldn't create any issues or waves and they didn't hesitate for one second and both said absolutely coach."

McManus added that when it comes to calling pitches, he's philosophy is to give the catchers a lot more responsibility.

"I'm not planning on calling every pitch during games. We have our signs and charts going and all of that stuff. In the scrimmages, there were a couple of times when I whispered to Coach (Chris) Grecco that we need a curveball right here and he called a curveball, or we need a fastball up and he called it," said McManus. "We were both on the same page on five or five occasions without even saying anything which was pretty encouraging. I want to give Michael some autonomy. He's going to play in college next year and I think there's some value in letting these guys learn the game a little bit and I don't want to take that away from them. But there will come times when I'll step in and make a call based on what we



The WHS Baseball team will be led by its three captains from left, Michael Monteforte, Patrick Stokes and Jacob Roque. (photo by Eric Canha).

have off data and information."

While the battery is intact, McManus said last Friday that every other position was nailed down with the exception of right field. He said Balter will play first base and when he pitches Spencer will see time there. Michael Dynan and Eric Spinney will be the double-play combination up the middle with Dynan at second. Stokes will play third base. The outfield will consist of Harper in left, Zimmer in center and right field is wide open. Spencer could also see some time in the outfield when Harper and Zimmer are pitching.

As for that right field spot, there seems to be a handful of people who will either battle it out or end up in a platoon role. That list includes returners Brett Ebert, a senior, and Lars Ostebo, a junior, who also saw time on the mound last year mostly out of relief. Newcomers include senior Brett Gallucci, juniors Brian Banks and Nolan Joyce, as well as sophomores Connor Lovell and Brennan Walsh. All of those players are versatile, and could see time in both the infield and outfield.

While the right field spot

remains open, McManus said most likely that spot will be determined by who provides the spark offensively.

"I like to say that my (offensive coaching) style is manufacturing runs, but so far it's been challenging for us," the coach admitted. "We haven't done a lot of bunting and hit and run stuff because a lot of guys haven't shown that much contact so far when we're hitting live. When we hit in the cages everyone looks like an all-star."

"We're going to need our top of the order guys to produce. Jacob Roque will be right in there once he's healthy, but right now we need guys like Michael Monteforte, Burke Zimmer, Spencer, Harper and Balter (to produce). We're going to need those guys to pick up the front half of the line-up and hopefully we can squeeze out a few hits from the second half of the line-up. I think Stokes has some potential. We're going to have to get a feel for it, as well."

McManus, a former star pitcher for the Wildcats back in the early 1990's, will be assisted by Grecco at the varsity level and Jim Boyle at the JV level.

Both are back after being assistants last year. McManus was asked how things were going on his end -- getting acclimated as a first-year coach.

"It's going great so far. It's so much more work than I thought it was going to be," he said with a laugh. "I'm the type that does something one-hundred percent or not at all, so it's been fun getting to know the kids. Coach Jim Boyle has been a tremendous asset to me with historical contacts and being my eyes and ears at the high school because I'm not working there every single day. He's been tremendously helpful and Chris Grecco has been great with me on the bench."

"This is a lot of new stuff for these kids. I don't ever want to contradict (former head) Coach (Aldo) Cairra and say 'this is the way I'm doing it' and he did it differently' but it's clearly different. It's definitely a different vibe from what the kids have been telling me. I'm demanding a lot out of them and I expect a lot. I don't look for average. I want exceptional and we're going to try to get better every single day."



The WHS Boys Lacrosse team will be led by its four captains, from left, Bobby Cyr, Nathan Alberti, Owen White and Michael Lawler. (photo by Eric Canha).

Boys Lacrosse team bouncing off last year's historical season

By JASON COOKE
Sports Correspondent

WILMINGTON- Last spring, the Wilmington High School boys lacrosse squad made history. As their 9-9 regular season record punched a ticket to the state tournament, the 'Cats earned their first postseason win in program history when they stunned Groton/Dunstable by a score of 10-8 in the opening round.

As Wilmington returns to the turf this spring, head coach Jeff Keefe looks to take that momentum and run with it.

"It's something to be proud of and it's an accomplishment for our team last year," said Keefe. "We just look to build off that momentum this year and be competitive. It's a tough league and also battling our non-league schedule so ultimately we want to get back in the tournament this year. I think that's a realistic goal for us moving forward."

With an offense that lost some scoring threats due to graduation, Keefe is confident in his players to fill those gaps.

"We lost some good mid-fielders that can score, so we're going to have to find some replacement shooting there," he said. "Mike Lawler and Nathan Alberti are going to step up to fill those roles."

Not only will Lawler and Alberti look to produce for the 'Cats on the field, their leadership qualities led to captaincies for this season along with Robert Cyr and Owen White.

White, headlining Wilmington between the pipes, is expected to only further his skills from seasons prior.

"He has just grown over the last couple years as a starter, and now I think the game is really slowing down for him," said Keefe. "He's confident in the net, he's seeing the best of the best in the state and I think he's ready for anything now."

In front of White, the 'Cats are looking to reload a defensive core that took a hit with graduated seniors.

"We lost a lot of depth in our defensive core," admitted Keefe. "We're going to have to replace most of the unit so that's going to be a bit of a challenge for us. We're going to have to teach some new guys some new positions. That's going to be something I look forward to."

One defenseman in particular that Keefe is giving the nod to is Ali Aboukal, who was new to lacrosse as of last season.

"He picked up the sport last year and just had a real fast improvement in his lacrosse IQ," he said. "He picked up the energy and the intensity to play the sport and this year he's going to be one of those guys that anchors our defense."

The 'Cats are also going to see contributions from Nick Iascone, Patrick LeBlanc, John Mehr, Luke Deprofio, Tommy Gaurgan, AJ Chisolm, Dempsey Murphy, James Caples, Colin Allard, Mark Donovan, Ashton Stalker, Michael Daniels, Peter LeBlanc, Justin

Memory, Luca Cudia, and Charles Rooney.

Eying a season filled with strong opponents, Keefe is preaching for his team to possess a high compete level on a game to game basis.

"Playing within yourself, getting ground balls, and managing possessions, being smart with the ball, and controlling pace as best you can so we can do our best to play our style of game (is important)," he said.

"Our team identity is try to do all the little things right," said Keefe. "Make up in those margins and if you can do that well you can be competitive against anybody."

With the 'Cats slated to play a competitive schedule featuring teams Reading, Lexington, Arlington, Woburn, and Burlington, coach Keefe didn't hesitate when asked if any matchups in particular stand out to him.

"All of them," he said. "We just take it one day at a time and we are just looking forward to our first game against Shawsheen Tech and then we'll go from there."

Regardless of what happens this season, Keefe is confident the program as a whole is trending in the right direction for the future.

"We're a real growing program, we got a lot more depth and our youth program is doing a really great job, so I just think this year is going to be a continuing forward for the Wilmington lacrosse team," said Keefe.

Additional coverage, see B4W

Girls Lax team looking to rebound from tough '22 season

By JASON COOKE
Sports Correspondent

WILMINGTON- After a one-win campaign last spring, the Wilmington High School girls lacrosse squad is hungry for a fresh start on the turf.

Even though the 'Cats will be without their talented graduated seniors, head coach Chris Frissore is raising the expectations for his group.

"I do expect us to be better than that," said the second year head coach. "We lost a lot of seniors (so) we're a little bit younger, but I think we're a little bit better. The expectations are we're going to win a few more games than one."

To set Wilmington up for success, the squad is headlined by three captains in Jess Collins, Kassidy Smith, and Abby Driscoll.

she deserved to be captain because she's a good leader and she's a good goalie as well."

As the 'Cats have been preparing for another season in the competitive Middlesex League, Frissore wants to put an exclamation point on team defense. Coaching basketball in the winter, the team will feature a total of seven basketball players who are looking to transition their basketball defensive IQ to lacrosse, including Jill Collins, Jess Collins, Alle Delgenio, Leah Murphy, Gabby Kulevich, Shaylan Bresnahan, and Smith.

"Playing defense in lacrosse is similar to playing defense in basketball," Frissore said. "You're protecting the net instead of the hoop. The man to man defense where you got to have eyes on the ball and eyes on the man is similar.

he said. "Our focus is on maintaining possession. Once we get the possession, we want to keep the possession. That's what I've been stressing, is we don't need to attack just because we're bored. We need to spring the ball around and wait for the right time to attack and not force things."

Frissore expects Kulevich and Jill Collins to be two players who will lead Wilmington on offense.

"Gabby Kulevich will make a big jump, she's also at attack, and Jill Collins is just super athletic," said Frissore. "If Jess or Kassidy get stuck in the offensive zone and we're going back on defense, she's going to cover people. She's going to be a big contributor on offense and defense on pure athleticism alone."

Leading the attack will



The WHS Girls Varsity Lacrosse team captains include from left, Kassidy Smith, Jess Collins and Abby Driscoll. (photo by Eric Canha).

"We have two captains I know from basketball, they have this will to win," said Frissore. "They love to compete and I think it's rubbing off on the team."

When captains were selected at the conclusion of last season, Collins and Smith were the two choices. However, after further noticing the leadership of Driscoll, it was a no-brainer to add the goalie to the previous captain duo.

"We have a great goalie too, she's also going to be a junior captain," said Frissore. "She's really good, she's a good leader. She wasn't named captain after last season, but Kassidy and Jess and I talked and thought that

"You'll see two or three of the starting defense are basketball players," he said. "They just understand the concept of you have to see the whole field, you can't just focus on the man, you can't just focus on the ball. The sport transitions well, I'm coaching similar strategies."

While Frissore wants to take pride in their defensive play, he also is looking to revamp the offensive strategy into an offense that relies on patience and maintaining ball control.

"Last year we spent a lot of time on defense because we didn't have the ball a lot on offense,"

he Sloane McIntyre, a player Frissore also expects will take a promising leap this season.

"Sloane McIntyre, she was on the team last year, she is pretty good," he said. "I think she's going to get a few more goals this year. She'll be playing at the X position and she's going to be the leader of the attack group."

The 'Cats will also seek contributions from Arianna Cook, Gabby Daniels, Caitlyn George, Bella Iascone, Lauryn Parr, Maddie Sainato, Laci Titterington, and Kiera Warford.

Additional coverage, B4W

Where's the Action?

Day	Date	Sport	Opponent	Time
Tewksbury High Sports				
Thursday	April 6	V Boys Lacrosse	vs Andover	4:30 pm
Thursday	April 6	V Girls Lacrosse	at Andover	6:30 pm
Friday	April 7	V Baseball	vs Westford	4:00 pm
Friday	April 7	V Boys Tennis	at Lawrence	4:00 pm
Friday	April 7	V Girls Tennis	vs Haverhill	4:00 pm
Monday	April 10	V Girls Tennis	at Billerica	3:30 pm
Monday	April 10	V Boys Tennis	vs Billerica	3:45 pm
Tuesday	April 11	V Girls Lacrosse	vs Haverhill	4:00 pm
Tuesday	April 11	V Boys Lacrosse	at Haverhill	6:00 pm
Wednesday	April 12	V Boys Tennis	vs Lowell	4:00 pm
Wednesday	April 12	V Girls Tennis	at Lowell	4:00 pm
Wednesday	April 12	V Baseball	at Lawrence	4:15 pm
Thursday	April 13	V Baseball	vs Central Catholic	4:00 pm
Thursday	April 13	V Softball	at Central Catholic	4:00 pm
Thursday	April 13	V Girls Lacrosse	at Medford	4:00 pm
Wilmington High Sports				
Thursday	April 6	V Girls Lacrosse	vs Winchester	4:15 pm
Thursday	April 6	V Boys Lacrosse	at Winchester	4:30 pm
Friday	April 7	V Softball	at Masconomet	4:15 pm
Monday	April 10	V Girls Tennis	vs Wakefield	4:00 pm
Monday	April 10	V Boys Tennis	at Wakefield	4:15 pm
Monday	April 10	V Baseball	vs Arlington	4:15 pm
Monday	April 10	V Softball	at Arlington	4:15 pm
Monday	April 10	V Girls Lacrosse	vs Gloucester	4:30 pm
Wednesday	April 12	V Boys Tennis	vs Stoneham	4:00 pm
Wednesday	April 12	V Baseball	at Wakefield	4:00 pm
Wednesday	April 12	V Softball	vs Wakefield	4:15 pm
Wednesday	April 12	V Girls Lacrosse	at Arlington	4:30 pm
Wednesday	April 12	V Boys Lacrosse	vs Arlington	5:00 pm
Wednesday	April 12	V Girls Tennis	vs Stoneham	5:30 pm
Shawsheen Tech Sports				
Thursday	April 6	V Softball	vs Essex Tech	4:00 pm
Thursday	April 6	V Track	vs Northeast	5:00 pm
Friday	April 7	V Boys Lacrosse	at Mystic Valley	4:00 pm
Friday	April 7	V Girls Lacrosse	vs Mystic Valley	4:00 pm
Monday	April 10	V Tennis	vs Gr. Lawrence	4:00 pm
Monday	April 10	V Boys Lacrosse	at Lowell Catholic	4:00 pm
Monday	April 10	V Baseball	vs Blue Hills	4:00 pm
Monday	April 10	V Girls Lacrosse	vs Lowell Catholic	4:00 pm
Tuesday	April 11	V Softball	at Northeast	5:00 pm
Wednesday	April 12	V Tennis	at Gr. Lowell	4:00 pm
Wednesday	April 12	V Boys Lacrosse	vs Nashoba Tech	4:00 pm
Wednesday	April 12	V Baseball	at Essex Tech	4:00 pm
Wednesday	April 12	V Girls Lacrosse	at Nashoba Tech	4:00 pm
Thursday	April 13	V Softball	at Lowell Catholic	4:00 pm
Thursday	April 13	V Track	at Gr. Lawrence	4:00 pm



Wilmington High School senior Alexa Graziano (middle) announced that she will continue her gymnastics career by attending Gustavus Adolphus College in Minnesota. Joining her on this special moment include her parents Peter and Jody, her sister Alivia and her brother Anthony. (courtesy photo/AD Dennis Ingram).

WHS Girls Tennis Preview

New coach, young talent and new culture

By JASON COOKE
Sports Correspondent

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WILMINGTON- In high school sports, fresh starts are essential for various programs to cement themselves back into a winning culture. New coaches, new players, and a different approach are key to altering the trajectory of a program.

The Wilmington High School girls varsity tennis team has checked all the boxes for a turnaround. Following a one-win season last spring, first year head coach Christina Woods is optimistic with the roster she has.

"I'm still getting to know the players myself, being a first year coach with them, and I'm trying to figure out strengths and weaknesses and who would play best where," she said. "But I have a lot of talent, so I'm excited. I think it's going to be a good season."

Not only is there a fresh face at the helm, there is a promising newcomer stepping into the first singles role in freshman Jaslene Ryou.

"My first singles player starting on Monday will be a freshman," said Woods. "She is very talented and I'm excited to see what she's going to do for the program. She's still very young, so we'll see what happens but I wouldn't put her at first singles if I didn't think she could do it. She'll be very competitive against a lot of these teams."

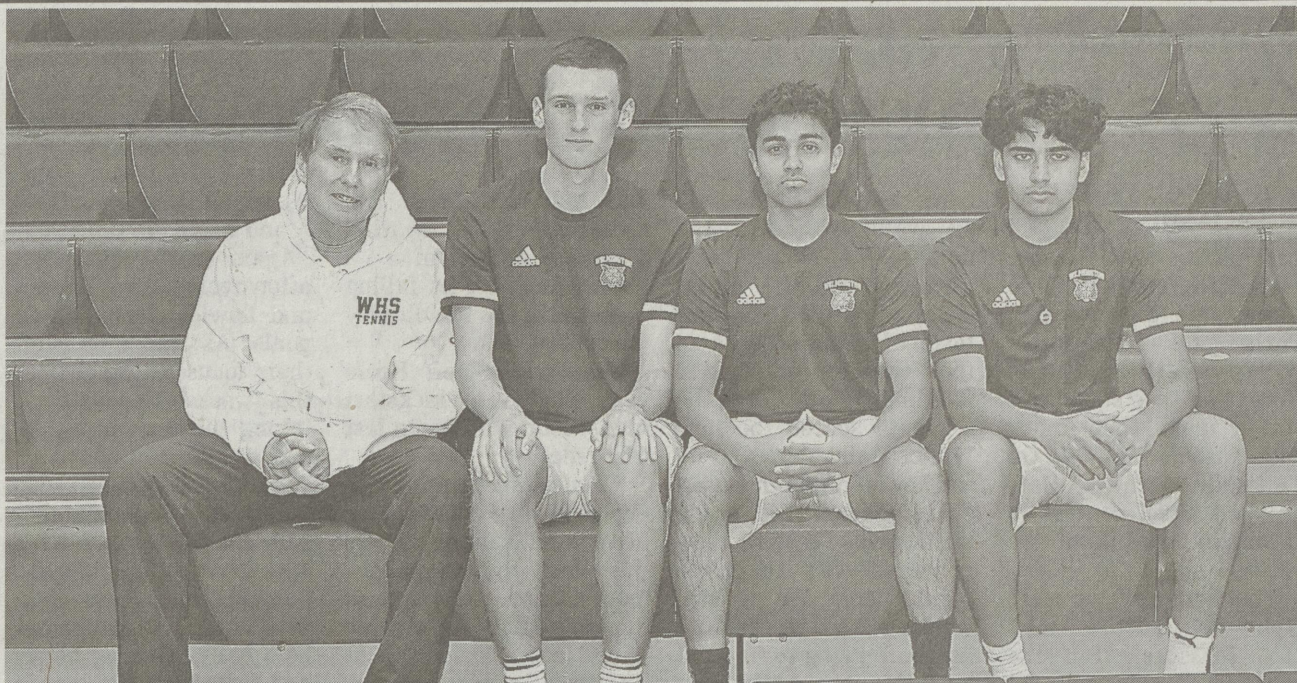
underclassmen talent, Woods has many options who could successfully fill the role.

"I also have a lot of potential with the underclassmen," she said. "Since there's only seven spots and we are trying to see who plays best with who. My second doubles is Julia Kane but her partner left. Right now I'm trying to find someone who can fill the spot of the (player) she played with last year. There's a lot of players who could potentially do this."

As Woods is just over a week into practice, she admits it has been challenging learning everything about each particular player. She points to her players as well as former coach Matt Hackett for guiding her in the right direction.

"It's been hard, but the girls have helped me out a lot too, telling me who played where last year and what people are capable of and I've been listening to them as well," she admitted. "Coach Hackett has helped me too, telling me his thoughts and I've been trying to at practice just figuring out where everyone should be playing."

The team features an abundance of depth, including seniors Marni McBride, Emily Gray, and Emily Tran, juniors Maria Cummings Priscilla Vo, and Katherine Murphy, sophomores Eleanor Ragsdale, Abigail De Los Reyes, Veronika Loshak,



The WHS Boys Tennis team is coming off a historical season which included two post-season wins. Head coach Rob Mailey will be looking to captains Owen Mitchell, Siddharth Karani and Anuj Gandhi to lead the way on and off the court this season. (photo by Eric Canha).

On the court, Boys preparing to serve up another winning season

By JASON COOKE
Sports Correspondent

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WILMINGTON- As the Wilmington High School boys tennis team takes the court this season, they are coming off one of their best seasons as of late. Finishing the season with a 12-8 record, the 'Cats were victorious in two post-season matches for the first time in program history; eventually seeing their run cut short in the Elite 8 to Martha's Vineyard.

As head coach Rob Mailey enters his 13th year at the helm, he is confident that he has the squad for another playoff bid.

"We're going to try, a lot of it depends on the try you get in the post-season," Mailey said of his post-season goals. "We're going into the season with a lot of confidence."

To make that goal a reality, the 'Cats will rely on their three captains Anuj Gandhi, Siddharth Karani, and Owen Mitchell both on and off the court this spring.

"I got three captains, and coincidentally they are my top three players," he said. "The strength

should be in singles in all three."

Leading Wilmington in the singles category is Gandhi, who is looking to follow in the footsteps of his brother Anay Gandhi, who dominated first singles last season. With the success that Gandhi has already shown, Mailey is confident the junior will have a strong season on the courts.

"Number one is Anuj Gandhi, his older brother was captain last year and he was one of the best players to come out of Wilmington. Anuj is pretty good too, he's a junior," said Mailey.

Right behind Gandhi is Karani and Mitchell, who Mailey also has faith in to compete and collect some wins throughout the season.

"Number two is Sidd Karani, I've had him for a while too," said Mailey. "Number three is Owen Mitchell and he's a solid number three. Owen played first doubles last year, but I did give him some time in singles so he's ready. He's very grown up, he's solid up here."

In the doubles teams, Mailey's confidence only

continues. In the starting lineup as a whole, Mailey is familiar with every player having had them in the program for at least one year. During that span, he's watched them grow and gain more experience, which will ultimately prepare them for this season.

"All the other kids that are playing doubles have had experience," he said. "There's nobody that's coming through the door that I've never had that's going to be a starter."

At first doubles, Mailey is nodding to Sarthak Tripathi and Srikar Mallajosyula and Eric Packer and Ryan Weinstein on second doubles.

However, his doubles teams aren't necessarily set in stone. With some promising underclassmen, Mailey will look to incorporate as many players as he can throughout the season into the second doubles spot.

"I have a few freshmen, they're lower level this year but I think that in time they are going to be good," he said.

Two players in particular Nick DiGiovanni as well as Mantyrdas

Banevicius are right on the cusp of a second doubles assignment.

"My number eight and nine aren't too far behind the four doubles players so they'll probably see some time this year," said Mailey. "Hopefully we don't have injuries but sometimes if we're playing a team like Stoneham or Watertown, I might sit a few guys down and let some other kids play."

Wilmington also features other players including Anthony Cummings, Jackson Kiley, Evan Woltag, and Adam Yalcin, who will all be contributing this season for the 'Cats.

With the season on the horizon, Mailey and his squad are ready for another season in the competitive Middlesex League.

"We're working hard," he said. "We run every day, we're doing competitive drills every day. I'm excited to see the season start. We got a good group of kids and also very supportive parents. Coaching would not be easy if you didn't have good parents, I'm very fortunate with that."

Additional coverage B4W



The WHS Girls Tennis team will be led by co-captains Julia Kane, left, and Carolyn-Haas-Timm. (photo by Eric Canha).

Right behind Ryou is sophomore Shubhangi Tripathi, who previously was playing in the first spot for the 'Cats last season. After dropping a challenge match to Ryou in practice, Tripathi designated herself in the second spot in a true testament to the added depth of this roster.

"That will be good for her because she'll be able to get some wins for us on second singles because she's very talented too," said Woods.

Rounding out the singles lineup is senior captain Carolyn Haas-Timm, who Woods expects to be a steady force all season long at the three spot.

"She's just a very consistent player, so I think she'll also be able to get us some wins in third singles against some of these schools," she said.

Leading off in the first doubles team is Sophia LaVita and Manny Benoit, who Woods is confident can carry over their chemistry from last season.

"My first doubles team right now is strong," said Woods. "They played together last year so I'm going to see how they do."

At second doubles, Woods is actively searching for a partner for senior captain Julia Kane. With a wide array of

Alyssa Mahoney, Melik Sreng, and Giseli De Oliveira, and freshman Cara DiGiovanni, Ella Dong, Alexandra Erler, Madison Lohrman, Srilasya Maliajosyula, Purima Thapa, Pravva Ramesh, and Grace Johnson.

With many players at Woods' disposal, the current lineup isn't set in stone, and will most likely see some changes throughout the spring season.

"The second doubles team is the team that will probably be rotating a lot, having some girls get a chance to play on varsity. The lineup could change anytime," she said.

Although Woods and her team would love to aim for the postseason, she wants to take it day by day and focus on competing with some of the small schools in the Middlesex League.

"Making playoffs would be really cool," said Woods. "I want to beat the smaller schools, obviously the big schools, they're going to be a challenge. But I honestly think I have some good talent. We are capable of beating a lot of these smaller towns."

The 'Cats open up their season with matches against Winchester and Arlington.

Additional coverage B4W

WHS Softball Preview

Potent offensive attack could push Wildcats

By JAMIE POTE
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WILMINGTON - Somehow, the Wilmington High School Varsity Girls Softball team won ten games last year.

Looking back that was quite the feat.

The team won ten games, which included a regular season non-league win over the Division 2 state finalists of Tewksbury, despite entering the season without a pitcher. Then outfielder Julia Archer volunteered to take the mound and a few others chipped in with some innings here and there, and the 'Cats finished the regular season with a 10-10 record before losing in the first round of the Division 2 state tournament to Norwood to finish 10-11 overall.

Now a year later, the entire team comes back with the exception of three seniors who have graduated, with Bella Kieran, who provided a powerful bat and terrific leadership.

So the question remains, can the 'Cats match or surpass the ten victories this upcoming season?

"I think we will be better defensively than we were last year. We'll be competitive but it'll be all predicated on our pitching," said head coach Audrey Cabral-Pini, now in her 17th season. "If we can keep the walks down, our defense will keep us in the game. Basically we have an entire new infield except for the battery so some people will be moving all over the place. We'll be able to hit and we'll have even more speed on the bases than last year. We should be able to execute our bunts,

the hit-and-run and have more steals."

Archer will once again be the team's starting pitcher and will get support from freshman Erin McCarthy, freshman Sofia Tentindo, who is currently injured and out for a bit, and sophomore Tess Cappione.

Four-year starter and co-captain Abby LaClair returns as the team's catcher. She has one of the most powerful bats in the area, and will look to lead what could be a pretty explosive offensive club. McCarthy will serve as the team's lead-off hitter and she's already been impressive as an athlete, coming off a terrific rookie season with the varsity basketball team.

Senior co-captain Sofia Scalfini, juniors Lily McKenzie, Cassie Tibbetts, Abby Nolan, along with sophomore Eva Boudreau are returning starters, while, juniors Grace and Molly Walsh, sophomore Keirsten Moore and Cappione are all returning letterwinners who will be in the mix in various positions this season.

Besides McCarthy and Tentindo, the other newcomers include freshmen Alli McElligott, Charlotte Forcina and Summer Sands.

Cabral-Pini said that throughout the entire season, she sees every player on the team playing multiple positions. Boudreau will see time at first base and the outfield. McKenzie will see most of her time at second and third, but will also catch some. Tibbetts and McCarthy will see the bulk of their time in the middle infield, with McCarthy pitching some.

Nolan, Forcina, Moore and the Walsh sisters will all see time in the outfield, while, Cappione, McElligott and Sands will all be mixed in, while, Tentindo when healthy could see time on the mound and first base.

"They all seem to get along pretty well. It'll be interesting because we always open the season against the Middlesex League big schools, so we have Reading off the bat," said Cabral-Pini. "We have more players on the varsity team this year because we didn't want to send some kids down and have them play with seventh and eighth graders (who make up the entire JV team)."

"We have had tough,

tough scrimmages with Andover, Bedford, Londonderry, New Hampshire and we have Tyngsboro coming up. We didn't get the Billerica one in because of the weather. We have hit the ball real well in all of those scrimmages. Erin will be the lead-off hitter."

"Charlotte is great defensively in center field. At the plate, we showed her the split grip and now she has more control of the bat. Since then she has done a nice job of making more contact and bunt the ball better. If we can get some of those kids who are down in the order on base, a lot of great things will happen for us."

Additional coverage B4W



The WHS Varsity Softball Captains include Abby LaClair (left) and Sofia Scalfini. (photo by Eric Canha).

WHS Sports Round-Up

Girls Lacrosse team drops season opening to Lynnfield

By JASON COOKE
& JAMIE POTE

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WILMINGTON - Two games into their season, Chris Frissore's Wilmington High School Girls' Lacrosse squad has yet to make their mark with a record of 0-2. On Thursday, the 'Cats dropped a 9-5 contest to Lynnfield in a tale of two halves.

"The first half we were trying to figure it out," said Frissore. "But the second half, it looked a lot better. We let up seven goals in the first half and only two in the second. And I think it had a lot to do with the fact that we were simply trying to figure it out."

With a brand new defensive core, Frissore knows it will take some time for his players to fully get used to the competitiveness of the Middlesex League.

"Right now, we're going through a little hard time because all five girls that played defense for us last year are gone," he said. "On defense right now we're trying to figure it out on the fly."

However, the Wildcat offense clicked, with two goals from Jess Collins, two goals from Sloane McIntyre, and a goal from Kassidy Smith.

"Our offense was pretty good," admitted Frissore. "If we play that team later in the year, maybe it's a different result. But we didn't, and we didn't

come away with the win so we'll work on the defense."

On Tuesday night, Wilmington got their first taste of a powerhouse in their conference, losing to Reading by a score of 15-1. Smith scored the lone Wildcat tally. "They're a powerhouse," said Frissore. "A lot of the big schools, they're powerhouses. It's tough to play them. We're still working on the defense and still trying to figure it out. I've been trying to plug people in there and see who fits well. The next couple days is we are going to be focusing on defense."

With a team full of talented, athletic, and coachable players, Frissore has no doubt his team will be able to figure it out as the season continues.

"We have some really talented players on the offensive side," he said. "We have good athletes on the defensive side, there's a lot that has to do with playing as a team on defense. That's definitely our focal point at this point, especially because when we play those big schools, we spend eighty percent of the time on defense anyway. We got to be good on that end."

The 'Cats will look to build on their defensive presence with games against Winchester and Gloucester on the horizon.

BOYS LACROSSE

The boys lacrosse squad

has had a taste of two experiences, beating Shawsheen Tech in a 7-4 thriller as well as falling to powerhouse Reading by a score of 14-3.

Head coach Jeff Keefe was excited to kickstart the season with a win last Thursday.

"That was a real big win for us to start off on a positive tone," said Keefe. "To just know that we can be competitive throughout the year and to get some guys feeling good about the season moving forward."

Headlining the 'Cats was Nathan Alberti, notching a hat-trick. Mike Lawler also impressed with a tally.

"He set the tone for us offensively with good possessions and created some good movements," Keefe said of Alberti. "He got other guys some good looks too."

Despite dropping a matchup to Reading 14-3 on Tuesday, Keefe is confident his team will be able to take it as a valuable learning experience.

"(They're) a strong and very deep program," he said. "We get a lot out of playing against teams like that. (Getting) more experience every day and really getting used to and getting ready for the speed and intensity of playing high school lacrosse. We get opportunities to play against teams like Reading and we try to make the best out of those situations."

We're going to learn from it and move on."

Again leading the 'Cats offensively were Alberti and Lawler, each potting goals. As the 'Cats shift their focus to Winchester this week, Keefe still is taking the season day by day.

"We're just going to keep going on fundamentals," said Keefe. "Just making sure everybody is in sync, having that connectedness and playing together as a team. Getting better and learning little details as we move forward so that way we are more experienced and ready to be more proactive rather than reactive later in the season."

GIRLS TENNIS

In the girls tennis season opener, the 'Cats fell 5-0 to a very talented Winchester squad on Monday.

"Winchester is just a very good team," said first year head coach Christina Woods. "They'll be one of the better teams we play. We didn't play terrible we just couldn't finish it. They were getting all the points."

In the first match of the season for her young squad, Woods was impressed by the performance of her doubles teams.

"The doubles teams did really well," she said. "They were returning balls well. The other team was strong."

Headlining the doubles

was the first team, consisting of Sophia LaVita and Madison Benoit, falling 1-6 and 2-6.

In second singles, Julia Kane and Eleanor Ragsdale put forth a solid effort while falling 2-6 and 1-6.

Being a first-year head coach, Woods has been trying to figure out who could partner with Kane in the second doubles spot. After seeing Ragsdale play, she might have found her player.

"Eleanor actually has been a big surprise to me," said Woods. "She has very much improved since last year from what I hear. Seeing her play, she's a good player. She's honestly one of the better players, she's strong and she has a good ground stroke. She's impressed me a lot so far this season so I'm excited about her. She could end up being a good singles player in the future. I want to work with her and give her more experience."

Leading off in first singles, Jaslene Ryou fell 0-6 and 1-6 in her varsity debut. In second singles, Shubhangi Tripathi lost 1-6 and 2-6.

"She actually had three wins, but she was returning the ball and a lot of the points we lost were mistakes hitting it into the net," said Woods of Tripathi's effort.

Closing out the singles lineup was Carolyn Haas-Timm, who dropped both sets 0-6. However, that score doesn't truly indicate her performance on Monday.

"She was doing really well returning," said Woods. "Her scores don't really show that, but the other girl just had good angles and knew how to finish it. That's just something I need to work on with my team, is knowing how to finish it."

BOYS TENNIS

Also taking the court with Winchester, the boys tennis squad saw a similar fate, dropping the match by a score of 5-0. However, head coach Rob Mailey is proud of the effort his team put forth.

"We played better against them than we have in a long time," said Mailey following the loss. "The score doesn't indicate it, if there's such thing as a 5-0 loss, this was a good one. I told the kids that I thought we battled hard."

In the first singles spot, Anuj Gandhi lost 2-6 and 3-6 to a talented player from Winchester.

"(He) lost to one of the better number one players in the Middlesex League," said Mailey. "Anuj played much better than the score. It was a high level match, he just couldn't come through in the big

points."

In a back and forth second singles match, Siddharth Karani lost 4-6 in both sets.

"(It was) extremely competitive," Mailey said of the match. "He just had trouble at four all in both sets. Other than that, he played very well. That could have gone either way."

Closing out the singles was Owen Mitchell, losing his sets 1-6 and 2-6.

BASEBALL

On Monday afternoon, the WHS Baseball team opened up its season under the direction of first-year head coach Matt McManus. The Wildcats hosted Reading and came out on the losing side, 4-3.

The Rockets led 1-0 after the first, before the 'Cats scored one in the bottom of the second. Reading went up 3-1 after the third and the score remained the same until they added one in the top of the seventh. Wilmington did add two in the bottom of the seventh to make things interesting but fell short.

The 'Cats outthit Reading by an 8-6 margin, but four errors led to two unearned runs.

"Too many errors on our end led to two unearned runs, which ultimately did us in," said McManus. "We rallied in the bottom of the seventh scoring two runs. Their starting pitcher did a nice job keeping the ball down, generating ground balls, keeping their defense busy."

Junior Austin Harper went the first five innings for the 'Cats and took the loss. He gave up two earned runs on six hits, while he walked two and struck out six. Junior lefty Burke Zimmer tossed the last two innings, giving up an unearned run, while striking out two.

Offensively, Harper and Ayden Balter both went 2-for-4, with the latter driving in a run. Michael Monteforte, Noah Spencer, Connor Lovell and Eric Spinney had one hit each, and Spinney also drove in a run.

SOFTBALL

Also on Monday afternoon, the WHS Softball team opened its season with a 12-5 loss to Reading. The Rockets scored eight runs in the bottom of the first and cruised the rest of the way.

Wilmington High freshman Erin McCarthy went 2-for-4 with a single, double and scored two runs, while, freshman Ali McElligott had a double, knocked in two and scored a run, and senior Sofia Scalfani had a RBI double.

WHS Boys Track Preview

With 62 athletes, 'Cats looking to make a jump

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

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WILMINGTON - Over the last few indoor and outdoor track seasons, Wilmington High School boys coach Mike Kinney has said repeatedly that the programs are building up and he just wants to see individual and of course team improvement. That happened over this past winter season, and now it appears as if the veteran coach is right on track ... literally. This year's outdoor team has 62 members on it, and there seems to be a lot more depth than seasons past.

"We are off to a great start. With 62 athletes on the team, we seem to have a great dynamic in place. Senior captains Noah Carriere, Jon Magliozzi, Roman Moretti, and Braden Huddleston have already demonstrated their leadership by organizing the team and instructing the younger athletes," said Kinney, whose team finished 3-2 in last year's dual meets. "We have significant new talent this season, and we have high hopes that our athletes will continue to surpass their personal records."

Carriere will see time in the mid-distance events and Moretti in the distance events. Just recently, Carrier signed his National Letter of Intent to run next year at St. Anselm College. Magliozzi does well in the sprints and jumps, and Huddleston is a thrower with the discus/javelin/shot put. At last year's Division 4 state meet, Magliozzi finished 14th in the long jump at 18-00.50.

Moretti leads what could be a strong distance group with the likes of senior Brayden Gorski, juniors Thomas Burns and Mike Oatis, as well as sophomore Dean Ciampa, who have all run together during the cross-country and indoor season.

"The team is lucky to be led by a strong senior class of dedicated athletes," said Kinney. "We also have a great distance team running under the leadership of (assistant) coach Brian Sheppard and spearheaded by seniors Roman Moretti, Christian Niceforo, Brayden Gorski, and juniors Mike Oatis, Thomas Burns, and sophomores Gavin Dong, Dean Ciampa, Jake Cronin, and Vibhush Sivakumar. The distance crew has been

putting in a lot of mileage and is ready to race this spring."

Besides Carriere, the other returning mid-distance runners include seniors Nick Atwater, Tyler Nguyen and Matt Steinmetz.

"Noah Carriere will lead us in the 4x400, the 200, 400, and the triple jump, and Roman Moretti will be very competitive in the 800 and the 4x400. In the 100, 4x100, and the long jump, Jon Magliozzi should do very well, coming off a strong finish to the winter season. He placed fifth in the long jump with 20 '4.5". We expect Noah and Jon to be among the top performers in our league. Seniors Matt Steinmetz, Tyler Nguyen, Nick Atwater, and Brayden Gorski will also be significant contributors in the mid-distance events," said the coach.

In the hurdles and high jump, Wilmington will look to a handful of veterans to lead the way.

"Junior Sean Patrone and Hunter Sands will bring a lot of experience and have been putting in the work to make this their best season yet," said Kinney. "Both qualified for the divisional meet indoors. In the 400

hurdles, Aidan Burke is coming back with experience and should do well. (Assistant) Coach Deven Langenfeld has been doing a tremendous job working with hurdlers and jumpers."

Finally in the field events, mainly the throws, Cooper Loisel and Tyler Sheehan have had success in the past and will look to lead those groups.

"The shot put, javelin, and discus should be strong events for us with Braden Huddleston, Tyler Sheehan, Lucas Gorham, Cooper Loisel and Aidan Burke. Sheehan and Loisel both qualified for the divisional meet last year and have been looking forward to the season," said Kinney.

Also in the mix in various events will be juniors Jon Foresyth and Charlie Rosa in the sprints and jumps.

"We also have a very athletic group of juniors, including Michael Oatis, Jon Foresyth, Charlie Rosa, Nathan and Luke Cardin, Sands, Patrone, Burke, and Burns, all of whom will be very important to our season's success," said Kinney.

Among the newcomers who will provide depth that included sophomores Martin Philssaint (sprints), Ashvin Baker (hurdles), Cam Jenks (sprints), Nate Williams (throws) and freshmen Gabriel Borges (throws), Dylan Grace (mid-distance) and Cam Pereira (sprints).

Wilmington will open its season on Thursday against Watertown but at Reading starting at 4 pm. The meet was originally scheduled to be held at WHS but the league moved it.

"Wakefield and Burlington will pose significant challenges for us, but we expect to be competitive in every meet," said Kinney. "The league is moving to a new format with double dual meets to accommodate fully automatic timing. While the new format involves a transition, we are looking forward to the meets and training for the last season championships both on an individual and team level."

Wingate makes her first start, but Courage defeated by Wave, 3-1

The North Carolina Courage fell to the San Diego Wave, 3-1, Saturday night at Snapdragon Stadium. The Courage fall to 1-1-0 on the year while the Wave improve to 2-0-0 to start the season.

Wilmington resident Olivia Wingate made her first professional start, playing the first 60 minutes at striker. Wearing the No. 20 jersey, Wingate had one shot on net, three cross attempts and 29 overall touches.

The Courage handled the imposing environment well for much of the first half, leading in possession and shots. But the Wave pounced on a loose ball that led to a clean look on goal with just five minutes left in the period and Jaedyn Shaw took advantage to give the home side the lead.

Another intercepted pass

put Alex Morgan behind in the first five minutes of the second half, and she would strike to double the Wave advantage. A VAR review led to a handball penalty against the Courage in the 73' and Morgan converted to put the match seemingly out of reach.

Kerolin Nicoli drew a penalty just a few minutes later and would convert one of her own to get the Courage on the board. The Courage would send some crosses into the box to try and get back within a goal, but Kailen Sheridan was up to the task.

The Courage take a week off during the international FIFA window before returning to action on April 15, when they host Trinity Rodman and the Washington Spirit at 7:00 p.m. ET at WakeMed Soccer Park.



The WHS Boys Track team will be led by its four captains from left, Jon Magliozzi, Roman Moretti, Braden Huddleston and Noah Carriere. (photo by Eric Canha).



Former WHS star athlete and head field hockey coach Jodi Campbell has returned to the varsity coaching ring taking over the Shawsheen Tech Softball program. (photo by Eric Canha).

Campbell takes over as the Rams Softball coach

By DOUG HASTINGS
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BILLERICA -- Jodi Campbell is a busy woman.

A mother of three daughters (11-year-old daughter Brooke and twin 10-year-old daughters Audrey and Avery) with her husband Andrew, Campbell's schedule as a teacher, coach, wife and mother became so jam packed that she stepped down as coach of the Wilmington High field hockey team a little over a decade ago.

A special education teacher at Shawsheen Tech for the past 13 years, Campbell returned to the coaching world about six years ago as a sub-varsity softball mentor with the Rams under head coach Scott Ialuna.

Last year, when Ialuni stepped down, Campbell assumed her days of coaching the Ram junior varsity squad were over. She was right.

Campbell accepted the varsity job and is guiding the Rams this spring.

"I don't know what in the world I'm thinking doing this job," laughed Campbell, whose maiden name was McKenzie. "But we're making it work."

Campbell is pretty good at making things work.

She was a standout athlete at Wilmington High (as was her husband) and played both field hockey and softball at Endicott College in Beverly.

"She has head coaching experience, she's a great communicator and really just has a positive, pleasant approach with the kids," said Ram Athletic Director Al Costabile. "She understands the technical aspects of softball and also has a great grasp of how to motivate her players."

After a 9-11 season in 2022 that saw Shawsheen qualify for the state tournament, Campbell has a lot to work with as far as competing once again for a playoff spot and making a run at the Commonwealth Athletic Conference championship.

"The future of softball here is in good hands with her," Costabile added. "She'll do a great job of putting her imprint on the program."

Campbell is no stranger to coaching.

She was the head field hockey coach at her alma mater in Wilmington for seven years, earning a league title and a Coach of the Year honor along the way.

After finishing 3-15-2 her first year, the Wildcats won the league in season No. 2.

"It happened really fast," she said.

Once her children got a bit older, Campbell decided to give coaching another shot at Shawsheen, albeit at a slower pace than a varsity head coach.

"I did freshman and junior varsity for about six years," she said. "When (Scott) left, I thought that was my key to leave as

well, but then the entire staff left. I thought a new person would come in with a new staff, but apparently that new person is me." Don't be fooled by Campbell's sense of humor. She's ready to guide the Rams to plenty of success on the diamond.

"I am (excited)," she said. "It will be fun."

"With her attitude, she's going to want to win," Costabile said. "She certainly isn't somebody that's just going to punch the clock. She's going to do the extras. She came in last weekend and cleaned out the dugouts. That probably hasn't been done in a couple of years, but she looked around, saw them and thought it needed to be done."

Campbell said working with most of the Shawsheen players previously at the sub-varsity level will certainly help the learning process.

"A lot of them, I already have that relationship with," she said. "That's kind of half the battle."

Campbell said that coaching at Shawsheen is a bit different than her time at Wilmington.

"When you're coming in from five different towns, you come up with girls playing the same spots," she said. "Last year (at tryouts), I'm pretty sure I had 11 first basemen, so that's what happens."

But despite some of the obvious challenges that a new coach faces, Campbell is already building.

"I have two lefties on the field, so that helps," she said. "We worked a little bit on (slap hitting) today and bunting is coming around."

Campbell's assistant coach is Leanne Ebert of Wilmington, the current varsity field hockey coach at WHS who actually took over the varsity job when Campbell stepped down, and the Rams will also have volunteer assistant Mike Bisso of Tewksbury and Sean Hines, a former Ram athlete.

While Campbell is hoping for good things on the field from her team, she's also hoping the Rams can develop the discipline that her outstanding Wilmington teams of the past did.

"Discipline is not like it used to be," she said. "I was never a minute late (to practice). I was so afraid of (field hockey coach Maureen Noone). That was a time when my grades were always good because all I wanted to do was play."

Now she'll coach, among many other things.

"It's a lot nowadays coaching and having a young family," Costabile said. "It really takes a great balancing act and she was confident that she could do it. I'm glad she felt that way because I feel fortunate to have her as the next head softball coach."

With a new look, Shawsheen Softball team optimistic about upcoming season

By DOUG HASTINGS
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BILLERICA -- The Shawsheen Tech softball team has a bit of a new look this spring with a new head coach and several new faces at key positions, but first-year varsity coach Jodi Campbell is hoping for good things from a group that has plenty of versatility all over the diamond.

"I am looking forward to this upcoming season," Campbell said. "I have some strong returners and they are a fun group. I expect them to lead a successful season."

The Rams had a preseason that included four scrimmages against solid opponents. Although Shawsheen didn't win any of the preseason games, Campbell said they were valuable to her squad.

"We learned a lot," she said. "Hopefully it will make the rest of the week a little easier."

Shawsheen opened the 2023 campaign with a road game at Greater Lowell before a non-league contest against Concord-Carlisle on Wednesday and a matchup with Essex Tech on Thursday.

"It's going to be tough right out of the gate," Campbell said.

Senior co-captain Mia Bisso of Tewksbury and senior Brooke Carlquist will be the team's two top pitchers. Bisso was scheduled to start the season opener.

"We have two good pitchers," said Campbell. "That's always a good thing."

Sophomore Alivia Imbimbo, whose sister is the top pitcher for Burlington High's softball team, will look to be one of Shawsheen's top play-

ers. She was Tuesday's starting centerfielder, but Campbell admits, Imbimbo could play several different positions.

"I could put her anywhere on the field," said Campbell. "She has such a great attitude. The last four scrimmages I also played her at third base and shortstop."

Other starters on

Reardon of Billerica played shortstop, but is another player that Campbell said she can move all over the field, including catcher.

"She wasn't expecting that," Campbell said with a smile.

Junior Haylee Johnston and junior co-captain Raegan Bowden will also be catchers for the Rams.

the Rams and McKeen should see time in both the infield and outfield.

Olivia Maxwell of Tewksbury was also called up to the varsity late in the preseason and should also see valuable time for Shawsheen.

Other varsity players include sophomore Alaina Powell and sophomore Tia Poirier, an infielder.



The Shawsheen Tech Varsity Softball team includes Tewksbury residents from left, Stephanie Mackeen, Sage Dingivan, Mia Bisso and Katrina Raymond. Not pictured Olivia Maxwell. (photo by Eric Canha).

Tuesday included sophomore Gianna Caruso at first base and sophomore Kayla Mason of Wilmington at second. Carlquist was at third base with Bisso on the mound.

"We have a lot of moving parts," Campbell said. Freshman Frankie

The Shawsheen outfield looks to be comprised of Imbimbo, Bowden in left and senior Katrina Raymond of Tewksbury in right field.

Stephanie McKeen and Sage Dingivan are other Tewksbury residents on the team. Dingivan will be a backup outfielder for

The Rams were 9-11 during the regular season last year and earned a trip to the state tournament where they edged Bristol Plymouth by a 7-6 score in a preliminary-round game.

The Rams then fell to top-seeded St. Mary's in the next playoff game.

Tennis program all aces the last few seasons

By DOUG HASTINGS
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BILLERICA -- The numbers continue to be staggering for the Shawsheen Tech coed tennis team.

Last year, Shawsheen continued an unbelievable streak, finishing 13-0, winning the regular-season title and then the league tournament.

The perfect season pushed the Rams undefeated streak to 26 matches in a row. With the team's 7-0 sweep of Northeast Regional to open the 2023 season, the number moved to 27.

"We are excited for this season and defending our league title," said Jay Tildsley, the Shawsheen coach for the past four years. "The team has

dominated and captured the league title in 2019, 2021 and 2022. Hopefully our returning players and newcomers can come together to produce a stellar lineup."

Tildsley said a large number of players turned out for tryouts this season. The field of hopefuls was so big that the Rams actually had to make cuts this season.

"We're 36-2 over the last three years," he said. "I think the winning tradition that has been built up and people want to be around it."

Senior Bobby Dodge of Wilmington and junior Ethan Hines of Tewksbury look to be Shawsheen's top two singles players. Neither player has ever lost a match during the

regular season and Hines lost in the league tournament final against one of his own teammates, John Zembeck of Burlington, who was Shawsheen's top player a year ago.

"They're both very good players, very consistent," Tildsley said of Dodge and Hines. "I had Ethan's brother my first year coaching tennis so there is some good lineage there."

One of the top doubles teams coming back will be the twin-sister combination of Tewksbury's Jasmine and Sarah Johansen.

Sophomore Trevor Engel of Tewksbury lines up to be the third singles player for the Rams.

Other top returning players include senior Will

Lamonica of Wilmington and senior Olivia Bongiovanni while Christian Rivera, a junior, is a good newcomer to the squad.

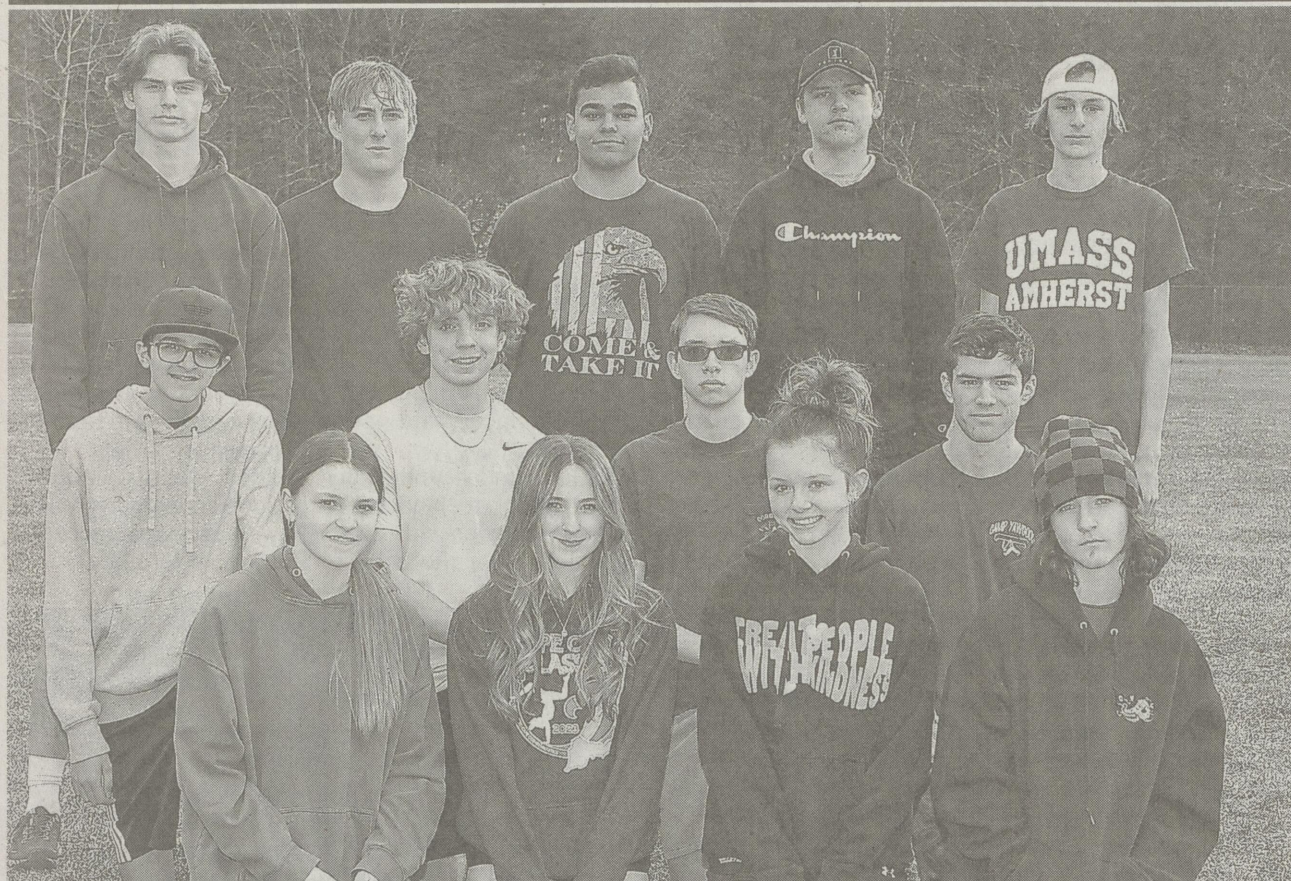
Tewksbury residents also on the team include Carly Heichman, Teddy Buccynski, Nishtila Lamsal, Christina Rainone, Gabriella DiSalvo, Karina Palencia, Amaya Maxi, Cameron Smith, Ian Gray and Ilya Butler.

Other Wilmington residents are Ivone Airoso, sophomore Alexandra Quick and Daniel O'Mahony.

After facing Mystic Valley on Wednesday, the Rams will host Greater Lawrence next Monday at 4 p.m.



The Shawsheen Tech co-ed tennis team includes many players from Tewksbury including front row from left, Carly Heichman, Teddy Buccynski and Trevor Engel; Middle row from left, Nishtila Lamsal, Christina Rainone, Jasmine Johansen, Sarah Johansen, Gabriella DiSalvo and Karina Palencia; and back row from left, Amaya Maxi, Ethan Hines, Cameron Smith, Ian Gray and Ilya Butler. (photo by Eric Canha).



The Shawsheen Boys and Girls Track team features many local kids from Wilmington including front row from left, Melanie Chesbrough, Elizabeth Santos, Megan O'Leary and Dylan Mullarry; Middle row from left, Derek Mulik, Logan Pyles, Geoffrey Cavanaugh and Patrick Tassone; back row from left, Jarred Bishop, Jake Antczak, Nathan Melo, Michael Ware and William Biscan. (photo by Eric Canha).

Over 100 athletes hit the track with hopes of keeping winning tradition going

By DOUG HASTINGS
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On Thursday, a new era in Shawsheen Tech track and field begins when the Rams host Northeast Regional.

With new coach Nick Sachetta at the helm, both Ram squads have the potential to enjoy seasons that could result in Commonwealth Athletic Conference championships.

BOYS HAVE WEAPONS

Shawsheen's boys track and field team has several versatile weapons.

Junior captain Zachary Rogers will be one of them with his efforts in the shot put, the 200-meter dash and the long jump. Rogers reached the state meet in both the 200 and the long jump last spring.

"He's just a hard worker," said Sachetta. "He's a good leader by not only example, but also voice. I'm glad we have him for this year and also next year."

Sachetta remembers being impressed with Rogers two years ago when Rogers was in the ninth grade.

"He's even better now," the coach said. "And also a lot bigger."

Rogers is also a standout football player for the Rams and a key member of the basketball team.

Sophomore Noah Brooks will anchor the distance events including the 800-meter run, the mile and the two mile while potentially helping out in the high jump and the long relay as well.

"He did really well at cross country," said Sachetta. "He sort of stuck out to me during the cross country season because he was a kid that

really wanted to improve and work hard. I started working with him in the weight room and I've already seen massive improvements with him not just with running, but in the weight room. I can't wait to work with him for the next two years because he's such a dedicated athlete. I think he'll be a major point scorer for us this year."

Senior captain Gianni Zompa will be the team's top hurdler and will race in both the 400-meter and 110-meter runs. Zompa made the state meet in the 110 hurdles last spring.

"He did those events last year and he'll be a really good hurdler for us," Sachetta said. "And we'll probably use him in some other events too."

Junior captain Logan Pyles and junior Gordon Noble will also contribute to the Shawsheen attack in the distance events. Noble usually runs the 800 while Pyles

"Gordon has kind of shocked me in a couple of the workouts," Sachetta said. "I think he'll do pretty well this year."

The coach has also been pleased with Pyles, another distance weapon.

"He's a very good leader," Sachetta said. "He helps out a lot and helps keep people in line as far as getting the groups together. He's a very good asset to have and he's always looking to improve."

Sophomore Sid Tildsley, the football team's quarterback and a New England champion wrestler, will be back as one of the state's best javelin throwers. Tildsley will also run the 400-meter hurdles and most likely a relay.

Tildsley recently com-

peted in the high school nationals for wrestling at Virginia Beach.

"He has to work on his form a little bit since he's still kind of in wrestling shape, but I have a lot of faith that he'll start picking it up again," Sachetta said.

Tildsley was fifth at the Div. 4 meet last year in the javelin.

Senior captain Zach MacLaughlin is one of the team's top sprinters and will likely anchor the 100-meter dash for the Rams. MacLaughlin reached the state meet in the 100 last season.

Junior Mason O'Rourke will be another thrower for Shawsheen and will likely be the team's top discus thrower.

Senior Christian Rainone's versatility will be a boost to the team's scoring. He will be one of the top long jumpers on the team and will also run the 100-meter dash and compete on the sprint relay.

Senior Cameron Camelio will be a dual threat for Shawsheen as a sprinter and a high jumper. A soccer standout in the fall, Camelio has experience in the 400-meter run.

"He had a very good (400) time last year and we're hoping he can improve on that," the coach said.

GIRLS WILL BE SOLID

Junior captain Arianna Farrell will be a top scorer in the 100-meter hurdles and will run the 4x100 relay for the Rams.

Farrell made the Div. 4 state meet in the hurdles last year.

Senior captain Brielle Pigott will have a unique combination of events this season as she will run both the two mile and the

400-meter hurdles. The races are held back to back.

"She's kind of crazy for doing that," laughed Sachetta. "I ran track (at Shawsheen) with her brother and he was the same way. She's great. It's a great family."

Senior Lindsey Frontain is another team captain and will be one of the better throwers on the squad, qualifying for the Div. 4 meet in the shot put.

Freshman Alexis LeBlanc and sophomore Kendra Minghella are two promising sprinters for Shawsheen. LeBlanc has impressed the coach with her 100-meter dash times and she'll likely earn a spot on the 4x100 relay. Minghella will likely compete in the 100, the 200-meter dash and the short relay as well.

Sophomore Megan Steeves will be a versatile weapon for the girls. She qualified for the state meet last year in the 100 and will also be a long jumper for Shawsheen.

Sophomore Makayla Nolan is likely to score points as both a thrower and a jumper. She earned a spot in the state meet for the shot last year and will also be a high jumper. "And she'll probably do a couple of other events too," Sachetta said.

Junior Gabby Walazek will throw both the javelin and shot put for the Rams and sophomore Amelia Matzke will anchor the distance crew.

Freshman Kara Clayton will be a new hurdler.

"She impressed with me with how quickly she picked up the hurdles," said Sachetta. "We didn't get a lot of form work in yet, but I think she will be a good 400-hurdler."

Former star, Sachetta, returns as the new head track coach

By DOUG HASTINGS
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BILLERICA -- Nick Sachetta is a track guy.

During his years as a student-athlete at Shawsheen Tech, the Billerica native and 2018 Shawsheen graduate ran spring track for three years as a distance specialist.

The Rams were successful during Sachetta's three years with the spring program under coach Jeff McGrath and Sachetta certainly left his mark as he holds school records in the 800-meter run (2:01.28), the 4x400 relay (3:32.57) and the 4x800 relay (9:04.74).

His running career didn't end with graduation as he went on to be a captain for the track and cross country teams at Fitchburg State University. At Fitchburg, Sachetta did

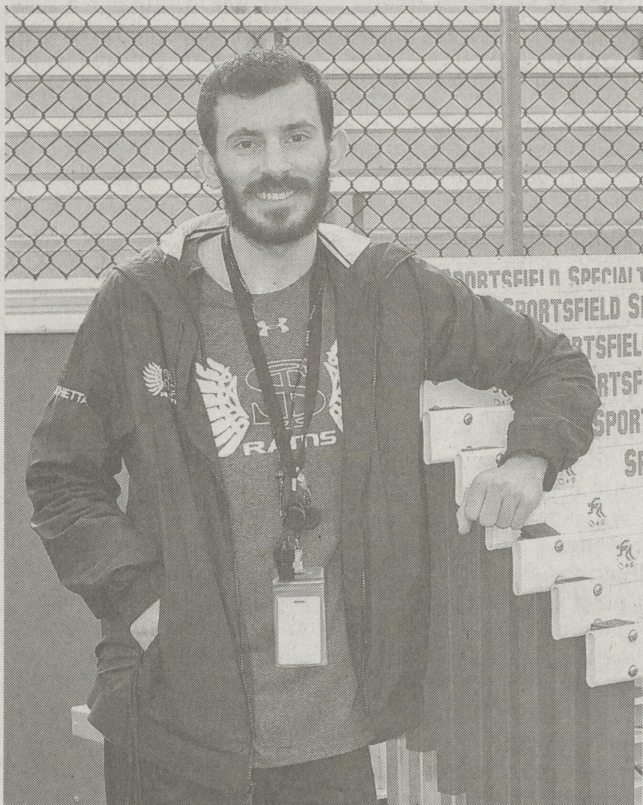
he was great leadership qualities," Costabile added. "I think he'll have a bright future. We're happy to have him and I think it's a position he can really grow with. Hopefully he will bring some stability to the program."

While becoming a head coach of two varsity teams only five years after graduating from the school is certainly no easy task, Sachetta isn't exactly afraid of a challenge.

Along with being a distance runner, Sachetta also went on to study biology at Fitchburg and hopes to eventually teach the subject at Shawsheen.

"It's just the stuff I'm interested in," he said of biology. "Hopefully I can instill that into the students."

Shawsheen had winning teams throughout Sachetta's time with the



Former Shawsheen Tech runner Nick Sachetta has returned to the program and is now the head coach of the girls and boys teams. (photo by Eric Canha).

anything that was asked of him, from the 200-meter dash to the two mile to hurdles and the steeple chase.

"It was fun," he said. "I'm still not quite done as an athlete. I still want to continue to push my times down."

This season, Sachetta is back with the Rams in a different capacity, as the program's head coach.

"Nick was a great runner here at our school and was a captain of cross country," said Al Costabile, Shawsheen's athletic director. "He's still very active with running. He's a very organized young teacher and has a lot on enthusiasm and energy."

Costabile said Sachetta's experience as a former athlete in both high school and college is valuable.

"Having been a captain in high school and college,

squad, something he doesn't anticipate changing while he's at the helm.

Sachetta admits that the hopes to continue the winning formula put in place by McGrath and Joe Gore, who coached the program last year.

"I'm trying to re-establish that culture," he said. "I think that's why Shawsheen is usually at the top for their programs, because they just have that ingrained culture. I'm just trying to reinvigorate that in a sense."

Sachetta will have a staff that includes Erica Tildsley, Dan Dorazio and Cody Lusas.

More than 100 athletes showed up for the first day of tryouts.

"I'm excited about it," Sachetta said. "We're looking forward to the season."

Boys Lacrosse team starts off 0-2, but vows to get it going

By DOUG HASTINGS
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BILLERICA -- Coming off of a season that saw the Shawsheen Tech boys lacrosse team accomplish several impressive feats,

the Rams are ready to once again make some noise.

The Rams lost their first two games of the 2023 season, a non-league 7-4 defeat against Wilmington and a 9-7

defeat against Essex Tech, but Shawsheen has four games in a seven-day stretch with contests against Greater Lowell on Wednesday, Mystic Valley on Friday, Lowell Catholic next Monday and Nashoba Tech next Wednesday at Shawsheen.

"We'll get our act together and get going again," said Shawsheen coach Chuck Baker.

The 2022 season included a Commonwealth Athletic Conference title, a spot in the state vocational championship game before an overtime loss to Essex Tech, and a state tournament run that included a victory over Lowell Catholic before the Rams fell to Draut in the Round of 16.

After graduation hit the Rams by taking their starting goalie and three of the team's top four scorers, Baker is expecting to once again be in contention for a league crown and a state vocational title.

"That's the plan," Baker said. "We have very good junior and senior classes. We have a lot of experience back and they're getting better every day."

The seniors are led by the four team captains.

Evan Curtis of Burlington takes faceoffs and lines up as a defensive midfielder, Derek Maguire of Wilmington is a middle, Mike Lawson of Billerica is an attack and Kyle Knell of Billerica will lead the Ram defense.

"We've got great captains," said Baker. "These guys have done a terrific job."

Junior Kyle Gray of Wilmington is Shawsheen's top returning scorer after piling up 43 goals and 14 assists last season.

Sophomore Zack Timmons of Wilmington, whose brother Dylan led the team in scoring with 89 points in 2022, had 26 goals a year ago and will be another offensive spark.

Junior Trey Elliot of Billerica provides additional depth on offense for the Rams.

Attackman Joe Soly of Billerica is the other senior for Shawsheen.

Nine other juniors on this year's team include Wilmington midfielder Nick D'Amico, defender Ryan Feudo of Tewksbury and Billerica residents Quinn Guinane, midfielder Teagan Ledoux, faceoff specialist Caleb Caceres, defender Joe Lloyd, defenseman Tyler Hall, defender Eddie Peterson and midfielder Chase Darcey.

Sophomores on the roster include Timmons, wrestling standout Brayton Carbone of Billerica and Niko Georgoulis of Billerica.

Shawsheen has six freshmen on the varsity roster, a group that includes Zach Connors of Billerica, Shane O'Neill of Wilmington, Nate Malandain of Billerica, Ethan Caceres of

Billerica, Jack Martins of Wilmington and Jake Giordano of Billerica.

Knell, Peterson, O'Neill, Connors and Giordano will anchor the defense.

"They're all doing a really good job," Baker said. Guinane is Shawsheen's starting goalie while Malandain has played well in the preseason and should also see some time.

Joining Baker on his coaching staff will be Scott Hewitt, Ryan Hunt and Jack Richards.

In the loss to Wilmington, Shawsheen goals were scored by Darcey, Timmons, Gray and Elliott while Darcey and Maguire chalked up assists.

Guinane made 14 saves in goal.

In the Essex game, Darcey had three goals while other tallies belonged to Timmons, Ledoux, Maguire and Elliott.

Timmons added a pair of assists for the Rams.



The Shawsheen Tech Boys Lacrosse team has six Wilmington residents, including front row from left, Nick Damico, Shane O'Neil and Jack Martins, and back row from left, Kyle Gray, Zack Timmons and Derek Maguire. (photo by Eric Canha).

Two-time league champs, hungry for a three-peat

By DOUG HASTINGS
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BILLERICA -- This could be a fun season.

On Tuesday, the Shawsheen Tech baseball team opened the season with a 9-5 victory over visiting Saugus and the win featured plenty of offense from the Rams, solid defense and starting pitching that had Shawsheen in front by an 8-1 margin after four innings.

It all points to good things ahead for the two-time defending Commonwealth Athletic Conference champs.

"We graduated four key pieces from last year, but still we bring back a good core," said Brian McCarthy, starting his 11th year as the head coach of the Rams. "The returners worked really hard all off season and it showed in the first week back this season. We have some terrific leaders on our team that are determined to make this season successful."

Shawsheen returns a pair of co-league MVPs in shortstop Mavrick Bourdeau, a senior from Billerica, and pitcher/third baseman Aiden MacLeod, a senior from Burlington.

MacLeod threw the first four innings on Tuesday, allowing just one hit and an unearned run.

Bourdeau was solid defensively at short and was 1-for-2 at the plate with a single, a walk and he also reached on an

error. Bourdeau scored three runs.

Senior first baseman Nick Maselli of Wilmington returns and will hit cleanup this year.

Against Saugus, Maselli was 2-for-3 with a walk, drove in two runs and his only out was a screaming line drive to left field.

The Rams have three other 12th graders including senior centerfielder Blake Parrott of Tewksbury, senior starting pitcher Conlen Powell of Billerica and senior Nick Gagnon of Billerica, who will also be a part of the pitching staff.

Powell pitched the last three innings on Tuesday and although he gave up four runs, he struck out three and pitched better as his pitch count increased.

"He's got all of the tools," McCarthy said. "I know it's an overused cliché but we really have a 1A and a 1B (pitcher). MacLeod and Powell are both seniors, they were 1-2 for us last year and they'll be 1-2 for us again this year."

Last season, along with the league crown, the Rams captured the state vocational title for the second time in school history.

McCarthy is anxious to defend both titles.

"I'm excited to see how this team's hard work pays off this year," added McCarthy. "They are a hungry group who love to compete."

Also back from last year's team is junior right

fielder Brendan Lee of Billerica, who was a solid contributor in 2022. Lee can catch and play in the outfield.

Other contributors this season will be Brody Amenkiewicz, a junior first baseman from Billerica, and C.J. Newkirk, a sophomore pitcher from Tewksbury.

After a scoreless top of the first by MacLeod that saw Maselli, Bourdeau and freshman third baseman Dyllon Pratt of Billerica make nice plays on defense, Shawsheen scored three times in the bottom of the first when sophomore designated hitter Robbie Welch of Tewksbury hammered a double to center and eventually scored on Maselli's one-out single.

An error scored Bourdeau, who had walked, and a balk plated Maselli.

After more good defense by Bourdeau and sophomore second baseman Lukas Poirier of Wilmington in the second, the Rams scored twice more as junior left fielder Evan Galanis of Tewksbury had a bunt single and came home after Welch's second double of the night.

Welch scored to make it 5-0 after a sacrifice fly by sophomore catcher Nate Galanis of Tewksbury.

In the third, Shawsheen added three more runs with Evan Galanis reaching on error and then scoring on another Saugus miscue before Nate Galanis' two-run



The Shawsheen Tech Baseball team has five Tewksbury residents including front row from left, Blake Parrott and Evan Galanis and back row from left, Robby Welch, C.J. Newkirk and Nathan Galanis. (photo by Eric Canha).

double to center that made it 8-1.

The Rams added a run in the fifth on a ground-rule double by Maselli.

Shawsheen added more good defense before the game ended.

Pratt made two catches in center field and Lee contributed a nice grab on a shot to right field in the seventh.

McCarthy was pleased

with the play of his younger athletes including Welch, who had a big day hitting at the top of the order.

"He was the DH today, but we will move him around," the coach said.

"It's a good problem to have, we have three kids that can catch. We will have a little rotation going where one will catch, one will DH and the other one

was in right field today. They can all play the field too, which is nice. We have a lot of moving parts."

Shawsheen's next action is Monday at home against Blue Hills Regional before its CAC opener on Wednesday away at Essex Tech starting at 4 p.m.

Rams in pursuit of league and voke championship titles

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent

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BILLERICA -- If a 13-8 loss at North Reading in Game 1 of the 2023 season told the Shawsheen Tech girls lacrosse team anything, it was that offense isn't going to be an issue.

Against a solid Hornet squad, the Rams battled back throughout the afternoon before eventually falling in the first game of the new season.

Despite the 0-1 record, Shawsheen coach Alex O'Reilly knows that difficult non-league games like the one in North Reading will only benefit her Rams as they pursue another state vocational championship and their first Commonwealth

Athletic Conference championship since 2019.

"The team has won four state vocational titles since I took over the program in 2016," said O'Reilly. "The girls won three consecutive championships in 2017, 2018, and 2019. We lost our 2020 season due to COVID, and we had a modified season in 2021, so there weren't voke tournaments those years. Then last season we had our first 'real' season with all of the good stuff back - non-league games, state voc tournament, regular rules compared to covid rules - and the girls were hungry to keep up the state voke streak and they went out and got it again for a fourth consecutive time. The voke tourney is

a huge deal for our team and something the girls look forward to every season. Defending the title is absolutely a goal we are working towards this season. It's a major component to the legacy of our program - we have players who've watched their older siblings win and assistant coaches who were part of that original 2017 championship team."

Winning the CAC crown again is also on the team's to-do list.

"Essex Tech is our biggest rival in the league," said O'Reilly. "We have always gone head to head with them over the years, and (Essex) coach Matt Gwilliam and I have coached against each

other for our entire careers with our respective teams. Playing against them is always fun and something we look forward to. Essex had a huge season last year. They had a lot of young talent and they were able to bring their game to the next level. We fell short all three times we faced them - twice during regular season and once during the MIAA state tournament. Those were hard losses that our team remembered coming into this season."

Shawsheen will be led offensively by senior Kerry Brown of Billerica, who had six goals against the Hornets and will once again be one of the league's top weapons with

her speed and athleticism.

Brown is one of four seniors on the team, a group that also includes Kiley McFadden of Tewksbury, one of the team's most reliable midfielders, Makayla Melanson of Tewksbury, and Kelsey Giordano of Billerica.

O'Reilly said her seniors will be an important part of the team both for their experience on the field and their leadership off of it.

"These seniors are fierce and very passionate about our game," said O'Reilly. "The four of them were freshmen when the pandemic happened, so they lost their first season with us. This is only their third season playing on our team so they're still bright-eyed and bushy-tailed. They are excited for the season and eager to enjoy their time with the team and to play hard."

Other offensive weapons for the Rams this season will be junior Alexis Fox of Wilmington, junior Riley Rourke of Wilmington, and junior Morgan Glover of Wilmington.

Glover and sophomore Judith Sloman of Billerica had Shawsheen's other goals against North Reading.

"We have a handful of really strong midfielders and attackers this year," said O'Reilly. "Our offense has some work to do with creating and maintaining motion, but that will come with time as new players grow comfortable on our team. The girls are asking the right questions at practice and bringing the fire - just two games in and they've scored 22 goals. Us coaches are really excited to see them continue to grow together as we move further into the season."

On defense, sophomore Pieris Fowler of Burlington will be the team's starting goalie after a successful rookie campaign last year.

Sophomore Mia Vacha of Wilmington will also be between the pipes for the Rams.

A backfield that was hit hard by graduation is still pretty good behind junior Emerson Glover of

Wilmington and Emma McDermott of Billerica.

Natalia Portillo-Pita of Billerica is the other junior on the Ram roster.

Additional sophomores include Alyssa Costantiello of Wilmington, Madeline Long of Wilmington, Fiona Rexford of Billerica and Adrianna Kepple of Billerica.

"We've played two games so far and defense looked entirely different from game one to game two," said O'Reilly. "Our first game against North Reading was a big challenge defensively, but a great game to open up with. We were able to see the holes in our defense, tighten things up, and crank the intensity during practice on Sunday. Yesterday we came out an entirely different team against Essex Tech, compared to the game against North Reading. Our defense had 12 turnovers in our favor and our goalie Pieris Fowler had 25 saves. The defense and Pieris really came together and stepped it up big time yesterday."

O'Reilly, a former Shawsheen standout and a native of Wilmington, is being assisted by Rachel Greenwood, also of Wilmington.

LOSS TO ESSEX

Shawsheen's second game of the year was a 15-10 loss to Essex Tech in an early-season showdown.

Brown had five goals to lead the way, Rourke had two, Fox had two and McFadden had one.

Emerson Glover led the team in defensive turnovers, causing five out of 12 turnovers in our favor.

Down 8-6 at halftime, Shawsheen tied the score at eight early in the second half before Essex pulled away late.

"It was really an exciting game to watch," said O'Reilly. "It was an awesome game and such a huge turn around compared to how we had played just three days prior against North Reading. We play Essex Tech again in exactly one month and it's something we're really looking forward to."



The Shawsheen Tech Girls Lacrosse team features seven Wilmington players including back row from left, Mia Vecha, Alyssa Costantiello, Riley Rourke and Madeline Long and front row from left, Morgan Glover, Alexis Fox and Emerson Glover. (photo by Eric Canha).



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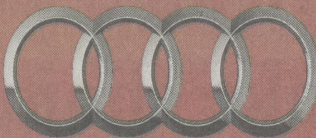
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